PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV OF MICH
FEB 7 - 1947

THE NEW

STATESMAN AND NATION

The Week-end Review

Vol. XXXIII. No. 831. [Incorporating THE ATHENÆUM] SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1947 [Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper] SIXPENCE

CONTENTS

COMMENTS . . . . . Page 61
GOVERNMENT AND BACK BENCHERS 63
ELECTIONS IN POLAND. By Doreen Warriner . 64
A LONDON DIARY. By Critic 65
THIS ENGLAND 65
THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF FUSION. By Maurice Edelman, M.P. 66
A SHOP WINDOW OF DEMOCRACY. By D. R. Rees-Williams, M.P. 66
THE NEW GEOGRAPHY. By Eric Dancy . . . 67
TROPICAL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN. By Luis Toledano 68
PAINTING AND THE NATIONAL INCOME. By Bernard Berenson 68

THE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT: Page
Radio Notes. By Edward Sackville West . 69
The Movies. By William Whitebait . 70
Round the Exhibitions. By Benedict Nicolson 70
Bricks Without Straw. By Desmond Shaw-Taylor 70
The Theatre. By Stephen Potter . . . 71
ATOMIC LOVE. By Sagittarius. 72
CORRESPONDENCE: 72
From Charles Smith, M.P.; A. W. Macdonald; C. L. Hodgkinson; Robert Graves; Graham Sutherland; and Lady Simon.

BOOKS IN GENERAL. By Kingsley Martin Page 75
REVIEWS:
The Baby and the Bath-water. By John Midgley 76
Odd, Grotesque, Wild. By Noel Annan . 78
Stories. By Robin King 79
Ibsen in the Making. By K. John . . . 79
Joy Out of India. By Andrew Wordsworth 80
GRAMOPHONE NOTES. By Edward Sackville West 80
WEEK-END COMPETITIONS 82

RED SKY AT MORNING

THERE has been a general disposition on the part of the press to complain that, in the White Paper on Britain's economic outlook published this week, the Government has presented the country with a diagnosis but no cure. This criticism is unfair: the "Statement on the Economic Considerations affecting Relations between Employers and Employed" is, in military language, an "appreciation." The plan of action will presumably follow in the forthcoming White Paper which is promised before Parliament is asked to give general approval to the "economic budget" of targets and resources which Mr. Herbert Morrison is to frame. What the Government has now done is to lay some at least of the economic cards face upwards on the table, in the hope presumably that the sight of them will induce a general feeling that "something has got to be done about it." They are obviously anxious to have no repetition of the experience of 1931, when the MacDonald Government drifted into a situation in which it was left to a body of hostile experts to prescribe anti-Socialist remedies for a crisis of whose coming the public had had little warning. On this occasion the Government is clearly determined to take time and the May Committee by the forelock. If, say, in two years' time, when the foreign credits on which we are now living approach the point of exhaustion, a situation arises which imperils both our standards of consumption and (through the difficulty of financing imports) our ability to maintain full employment, then at least the Government can say: "You have been warned." Shepherd Morrison has pointed to the red sky at morning.

That such a situation may arise has been argued at length in this journal; and though the White Paper contains little that is new in the way of facts and figures, it is a good thing that the electorate should be plainly warned that a great deal has yet to be done before Britain can be said to have a firmly based economy, and that the key to success in our whole programme of post-war reconstruction lies in higher output. In the picture of the situation which the White Paper paints there are some curious omissions. For example, in arguing the case for larger exports, it is noted that in 1946 our "visible" imports exceeded "visible" exports by £328 million; but no estimate is made of the real deficit in our balance of foreign payments which includes, on the one side, income from shipping, services and overseas investments, and on the other side, a figure—unstated but known to be enormous—for the cost of foreign exchange involved in "occupations" and the maintenance of armed forces abroad.

Again, though it is declared to be impossible to reach our export target by switching labour from production of goods for home consumption to manufacture for export "without any increase in the pre-war rate of output per head," no indication is given whether productivity per man-hour has in fact fallen as compared with 1939, or if it has, whether the cause is lack of will to work, increased obsolescence of plant, bottlenecks in raw material supplies, price-rings or shortcomings of management. We would like, too, to have seen a clearer exposition of the directions in which, it is hinted, inflation (actual or potential) is visible. Noting that the present total of all taxed incomes probably exceeds by £1,000 million the value of goods and services available to be bought, the Statement observes that both wages and prices have risen. But though the actual wage bill is said to have increased by £1,200 million since 1939, no attempt is made to measure the increased cost of the goods for which those earnings have to pay; or is there any assessment of the increase in profits, or of the inflation of purchasing power which has taken place owing to the rise in Stock Exchange and other capital values.

These points apart, the picture which the White Paper outlines is sufficiently clear to suggest several inescapable conclusions. First, there is the question of the over-all shortage of man-power. Though our total working population is today over 500,000 greater than in mid-1939, when rearmament was in full swing, the numbers now absorbed by the Forces and the production of their supplies, by Government, professional and personal services, and by entertainment and sport is actually 815,000 higher than before the war. Can we, in a society which has evolved such a complex system of employments which are not strictly productive, afford to maintain, as we are now doing, 1,385,000 men in the armed forces? The answer is in the negative—unless we are prepared to accept immigrant labour on a very large scale. If we are not—and the case for controlled immigration of labour must not be lightly dismissed on the score of political or racial prejudices—then by no manner of means can we support the burden of our present Service establishments, and our policies must be so modified as to enable further drastic demobilisation to be undertaken without delay. In addition, we shall have to face squarely the question whether it is not imperative to secure the mobilisation of a greater female labour force in industry by enacting the principle of equal pay for the job.

The next point is the question of the maldistribution of labour to which the White Paper calls attention. In the industries listed in which there is a substantial deficiency of labour—and here we would observe that the mere counting of heads without reference to the degree of mechanisation is meaningless—increased output depends, partly, on making the level of wages more attractive, and partly on modernisation of plant. How these objectives are to be secured in non-nationalised industries, and how those engaged in other better-manned and more prosperous industries are to be persuaded to forgo immediate claims to higher wages or increased dividends is a problem which the White Paper recognises by implication, but does not solve. Many of its phrases indicate a tendency to place reliance on a general exhortation to work harder as a substitute for precise, constructive policy in relation both to incentives and the direction of industry. It is no substitute. If an

attempt is made to engender a sort of Stakhanovite fervour without planned priorities in the allocation of materials, without greater participation by workers' representatives in the functions of management, and without insistence that management itself must be expert, the result is more likely to be disappointment and a sense of frustration than greater all-round production.

In short, the Government has laid the cards on the table but has left it obscure who is expected to play them. Is it the trade unions, the employers or a State which is still apparently conceived to be a neutral entity holding the balance between the workers and the owners of the means of production? Apart from a hint that the present subsidies which are provided by the Treasury to stabilise food prices may have to be reduced, the Government has given in this White Paper only one positive indication of policy. In order to carry out its pledge to maintain full employment, it is doing, it claims, everything it can to reduce to a minimum the dangers that unemployment in our own export industries will be caused by depressions abroad, and "it is preparing measures to counteract" unemployment at home if such a threat to full employment should arise. This is welcome news, but what exactly is being done or planned? Public works? There are obvious limits to their efficacy in maintaining full employment if an American slump has the effect of throwing the British balance of payments radically out of gear, and so curtailing our capacity to finance imports of materials. To suppose, in fact, that we could unilaterally insulate ourselves from the effects of a depression in the United States is a delusion; and the final inference which is to be drawn from the White Paper is that, if our precarious balance of payments is to be rectified and if we are to fortify a Socialist economy against the impact of devastating shocks from abroad, we must increasingly integrate our production and trade with those of countries for whom a planned economy is equally a condition of survival.

Poland Votes

Although the final voting figures will not be issued officially until next week, it seems clear that the Government bloc in Poland has secured a sweeping majority. Newspaper correspondents were given every facility to watch the polling, and their testimony is practically unanimous that the voting was conducted in conditions of secrecy. Our correspondent, whose dispatch, written on the eve of the election, will be found on a later page, cables that from personal observations at Bialystok she can confirm that, in a heavy poll, the arrangements for ensuring secrecy of voting were satisfactory. Before the poll was complete, M. Mikolajczyk gave notice that he would ask the Polish Supreme Court to annul the elections on grounds of irregularity; and, if he finds that he is on weak ground in alleging lack of secrecy, he will doubtless complain of pressure and faked counting. Will the British and American Governments endorse this contention, and, if so, what action will they take? Suppose that the voting last Sunday was the product of various kinds of pressure, and that a large percentage should be deducted from the Government's majority in order to arrive at the true voting figures. What useful action can London and Washington take to demonstrate their displeasure at the result? The Americans are known to be anxious to establish trade relations with Poland, and M. Modzelewski, the Polish Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressed to our correspondent after the elections the hope that a trade agreement could now be concluded with Britain. To refuse to recognise the new Government, or to accord it only "provisional" recognition, would have only two certain results. It would tend to create in Poland the impression that the Western Democracies were backing Polish reaction and terrorism; and it would orientate towards the U.S.S.R. even those Poles who are most anxious to have friendly relations with the West.

M. Ramadier and His Problems

The Assembly gave an impressive vote to M. Ramadier, "middle of the road" Socialist, entrusted by the President with the task of forming a Cabinet. Only the Republican Party of Liberty, the extreme Right, withheld their support after M. Ramadier had given the Assembly an outline of the policy he proposed to follow. His speech was, in fact, an adroit attempt to placate all Parties and allay apprehensions on all sides. He assured the M.R.P. that law and order would be restored in Indo-China, that there would be no precipitate extensions of nationalisation, that reductions in prices would have priority over increases of wages, and that, whatever his Party, the man selected as Minister of Defence would be "bent on the rehabilitation of France." Equally, he gave the Communists an assurance that there would be no withdrawal of the French promise of independence to Viet-Nam, that in carrying out the Monnet plan for higher production it must be recognised that wages in the lower categories were today too low, and that the real value of all wages must be raised. How the C.G.T. is to be satisfied without undoing the effects of M. Blum's "psychological shock" to prices is possibly the biggest immediate problem which M. Ramadier and his colleagues will have to face. In the negotiations which preceded his appearance before the Assembly, M. Ramadier clearly aimed at a Cabinet of broadly based Republican Union. This he has secured, thanks to the remarkably accommodating attitude of the Communists; portfolios are distributed on lines which suggest continuity of the policies of both M. Bidault and M. Blum. For the moment, the demonstration of unity is magnificent; but it remains to be seen how the practical proposals of Communist Ministers of Reconstructions and Labour are to be reconciled with those of the conventionally conservative M.R.P. Finance Minister. The Socialist core of M. Blum's Ministry is now enlarged in a Coalition which is certainly broad enough. The only question is whether so many Ministerial checks and balances will impede the resolute programme which France needs.

Another Crisis in Palestine

Sir Alan Cunningham, we fear, pleaded in vain for an immediate decision to impose partition in Palestine. The Cabinet seems still determined to go through the motions of "completing" the London Conference, though it must know that an agreed solution is impossible, and that the Palestinian Arabs next week will put forward far more extreme demands than the Arab League last September. Meanwhile, Field Marshal Montgomery, who is remembered in Palestine for his ruthless measures in Haifa during the Arab revolt, has apparently persuaded Mr. Attlee that martial law must be imposed and the soldiers given "a free hand" if the Jewish Agency fails to prevent another outbreak of terrorism. This places the Agency and the Haganah in a dilemma. The British will not arm them, and they cannot use their own hidden arms without fear of arrest. Nor can they persuade the Irgun to stay quiet during the London negotiations, since the whole aim of the Irgun is to prevent any compromise, including partition. Apparently Mr. Attlee has not yet learnt the lesson of Dr. Weizmann's defeat at Basle, which deprived the Jews of their only statesman and Britain of her best friend. The Jewish moderates cannot regain their authority and suppress terrorism unless the Cabinet is prepared to strengthen their hand by some immediate concessions. In postponing a decision and demanding the impossible of the Jewish Agency we are once again in danger of playing into the hands of the extremists as we did last June.

Competitor Zones

If the Anglo-American calculation has been that the Russians' consistent advocacy of economic unity for the Reich is motived by growing difficulties in the Soviet Zone, and that therefore the U.S.S.R. will sooner or later be willing to buy its way into the Western Zone on our terms, Marshal Sokolovsky's recent statement of policy in the Soviet Zone must have been disconcerting. Reparations from current production are to be scaled down drastically; there is to be no further dismantling of factories; and reparations in plant are to stop except for machinery from seven coal mines. Simultaneously, there is to be an increase in the lower ration categories benefitting over five million people. Output of coal in the Zone is now not far short of the pre-war level, and during the past year production of many key materials has more than doubled. Heavy though the burden of reparations may have been on the Soviet Zone, these figures do not lead to the conclusion, suggested in some quarters, that the Zone has become a liability to the Russians, or even that it is a wasting asset. Can we say as much of the British Zone? In his press conference this week, Mr. John Hynd painted once again a gloomy picture of malnutrition, a critical lack of houses and a coal position "so desperate that we cannot visualise it getting worse." He also admitted that there was some substance in allegations of corruption made in this journal and the House of Commons and stated that "very severe" action had been taken. In the hope of stimulating Ruhr coal output, the Control Commission apparantly has in mind the introduction of a system whereby "points" for extra rations are to be given to the miners in return for increased individual output. The plan seems well worth trying; but it is disconcerting to learn that when the German Mineworkers Union recently worked out a practical plan whereby the Swedish trade unions would supply them with 250 tons of bacon in the current quarter, in return for the delivery of 1,800 tons of coal in April-June, the scheme was vetoed by Military Government on the ground that Germany was not authorised to embark upon private import-export transactions. Comment in the Ruhr is that the plan has been the victim of a bureaucratic and unimaginative decision.

American Trade and British Debts

Reports from Washington suggest that the American Administration intends to hold this country strictly to its commitments, under the Loan agreement, to make no departures from the principle of multilateral trade. The point on which the Americans have seized is a clause in the recent British Trade Pact with Argentina which provides that, if in any year Argentine purchases from Britain exceed British purchases from Argentina, Britain will release out of Argentina's blocked sterling balances enough to pay for the difference. This difference, however, must arise as a result of Argentina's purchases within the sterling area. The practical importance of this clause may not be great, inasmuch as Britain normally has an unfavourable trade balance with Argentina; but, from the American point of view, the precedent is important and obnoxious. The U.S. administration, it is understood, insists that no such clause be inserted in any future economic agreements concluded by Britain with other countries. If this insistence is maintained, it will be a grave stumbling block in the way of forthcoming negotiations with regard to the blocked sterling balances held by India and Egypt. If these countries are prepared to spend the money in the sterling area—that is to say, to accept repayment mainly in the form of British manufactured goods, which they need—then there is no doubt a large proportion of these sterling balances can be released fairly soon by yearly instalment. If, however, all releases are to take the form of freely convertible currency, they are likely to place such a strain on our dwindling dollar resources that most of our debts will have to remain indefinitely blocked—to the great detriment of economically backward creditor countries. Under the loan agreement

we have no answer to the American case; and the only way out of this intolerable dilemma appears to us to be that our creditors, *in their own interest and without reference to us*, should deliberately plan an unfavourable balance of trade with Britain.

The Russian Outlook

Lacking authoritative news about the internal situation of the Soviet Union, the outside world is too prone to disregard the influence of domestic affairs upon its foreign policy. It has, however, been clear for some time that the regime is faced with serious difficulties at home which have induced an attitude of compromise towards the Western Powers, though the extent of this crisis has undoubtedly been exaggerated. The speech made this week by Mr. Alexandrov, who holds a prominent position in the Communist hierarchy, is the first official admission that, on top of the shortages and economic dislocation caused by the war—and these were terrible enough—Russia is passing through a major agricultural crisis, aggravated by the failure of the harvest, especially in the Ukraine, on which so much hope was placed. It was already known that special measures had been taken to reorganise the collective farms, but Alexandrov's statement about crop failures shows that the sudden change in Soviet policy late last year followed from the Kremlin's realisation that this winter would produce more serious food and economic problems than had been bargained for. Even the disconcerting episode of the *Pravda* article, which suggested that Mr. Bevin's broadcast on December 22 was an attempted repudiation of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty, fits into this general pattern. We believe that the explanation is that *Pravda*, deeply suspicious of Mr. Bevin's motives, and convinced that the British and Americans are in effective alliance, was simply angling for a public reaffirmation by the British Government that the Anglo-Russian alliance still holds good. This satisfaction Mr. Bevin has given them in the clearest terms.

The Old Folk

A survey of the conditions of life for the generation of pensioners was long overdue, and the report of the Nuffield Foundation (*Old People*, O.U.P., 3*s*. 6*d*.), goes a long way to meet the need for a systematic investigation. Some of its disclosures are shocking, though the report does not suggest that the total number of exploited or mistreated old folk is very large. It points out, however, that the private charities, to which the aged are often driven through their fear of the "House," are in a state of chaos which is frustrating the spirit in which they were originally endowed. Clearly, there is need here for a general inspection and reorganisation. But a far greater problem is the provision of decent and convenient homes for those who have nobody to care for them. This becomes increasingly urgent as our population ages; and the most economical solution is clearly the erection of hostels which offer a combination of privacy and communal services. No community with a conscience can tolerate the slow extinction of life on the margins of poverty which is the miserable lot of too many pensioners. The report rightly makes a distinction between the old who are still fit, and in many instances wish to continue working, and those who are partially or wholly dependent. Both groups, it suggests, would benefit by an improvement of social and medical services, but it appears to regard the present pension rate as quite adequate. At times, the report seems to lean over backwards in its desire not to make retirement too attractive lest older workers should retire while there is still useful life in them. In these days of manpower shortage, it is advisable to encourage the able-bodied to work on, but will they be tempted to idleness by a State pension which is probably no more than a quarter of their normal earnings?

GOVERNMENT AND BACK BENCHERS

The end of the Recess is always unwelcome to a Government. Ministers can no longer concentrate on their Departments; and to the conflicts and anxieties of Whitehall and of the Cabinet are now added the uncertainties of Question Time and of Debate. Legislative speed depends very largely on the success of the Leader of the House in handling two potential storm centres, the Opposition and his own supporters.

In the present Parliament the Opposition has not proved a very formidable opponent. This is due less to its numerical weakness than to the mastery which the Treasury bench has now achieved. The Opposition is not only outnumbered, but out-debated and out-manœuvred. Ministers have shown wisdom in conciliating the Opposition on occasions when they could have overridden it. Thereby they have saved parliamentary time by removing the chief cause of organised obstruction from the other side of the House. The Government has established firm but cordial relations through the usual channels; and in each Thursday's discussion of business—a symbolic trial of strength—Mr. Morrison has proved that a Cockney David's sling is a match for the Churchillian panoply. For this side of his work the Leader of the House deserves a good deal more praise than he sometimes gets from supporters who fail to realise how much good will would have been forfeited by an unfair exploitation of the Opposition's weakness.

There is a surprising contrast, however, between the Government's handling of the Opposition and of its own supporters. Towards the former it has shown patience, tact and diplomacy; in dealing with the latter it has too often been inclined to take loyalty for granted so long as things go smoothly and to rely on the Whip when they go badly. A cynic recently observed that there would have been no rebellion on foreign policy had the rebels been handled with a fraction of the consideration devoted to the official Opposition. This, of course, is an exaggeration. Genuine and deeply felt differences divided the Government from the framers of the "Grand Remonstrance"; but it is possible that a public explosion might have been averted if the Prime Minister and Mr. Morrison had realised that confidence must be a two-way relationship.

Mr. Morrison will no doubt reply that he has been the prime mover in the relaxation of Standing Orders and in the formation of Party groups. He could retort that it is difficult for a Minister to talk frankly at a Party or group meeting in the morning when he knows that he will read a verbatim report of his speech in the *Evening Standard*. He can indeed establish an excellent defence, but as an experienced parliamentarian he knows that this is not enough. It is his duty to remedy the defects in an organisation which was hurriedly established after an unexpected parliamentary victory and before the character of the new parliamentary Party was known.

The Labour Party, inside and outside the House, has always been more sharply disciplined than the Conservatives. Trade Union experience has made it impatient of minorities, and its leaders—as the Annual Conference shows—are well versed in exploiting a written constitution in order to suppress incipient revolt. To the traditional demand for conformity is now added the parliamentary principle that a Cabinet is responsible not to its supporters, but to the whole House. In opposition, Socialist back benchers were at least able to elect their own Front Bench, to assist in the formulation of policy and to take extensive part in Debate. In the present Parliament they can claim no such rights. Their two duties are to vote and to hold their tongues.

Under these conditions a sense of frustration is inevitable. Government supporters must watch in silence the active participation in debate of Tory Members with only a fraction of their ability. Sometimes—but much more rarely than a year ago—they must listen in silence to an incompetent presentation of the Socialist case. Long hours of enforced attendance under these conditions very easily produce a mood in which revolt seems the only method of self-expression.

What could be done to ease this sense of frustration? No one suggests that the parliamentary Party should be transformed into an Australian caucus. The recent incident at Canberra, where the Party ordered the Cabinet to reverse its decision on Bretton Woods, shows the consequence of giving it control of politics. The responsibility is removed from the House to the Committee room, and the Cabinet is placed at the mercy of the Party boss. Mr. Attlee and Mr. Morrison have the full backing of their most critical supporters in firmly rejecting any change in the relation between the Government and its supporters which would undermine the principle of Cabinet responsibility. The back benchers cannot hope—except by open revolt—to exercise power. Their claim must be for influence alone.

But do not the weekly Party meetings and the groups provide just those channels through which influence can best be exerted? Experience indicates that they do not. Despite a vast improvement in the conduct of business under the chairmanship of Maurice Webb, a meeting of several hundred Members is too unwieldy for serious discussion—and too leaky as well. Moreover, once an important issue is formally raised in the Party Meeting, the Government is almost bound to make it a matter of confidence. The minority is faced with the dilemma of either challenging the Government on the floor of the House, or withdrawing ignominiously. Nor do the Party groups at present fulfill a very useful task. They are too large and too heterogeneous either to win the confidence of Ministers, or to discuss coherently. One or two groups have functioned effectively. The Finance Group, for instance, which is really composed of experts, works harmoniously with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Civil Aviation Group early came into conflict with Lord Winster and Ivor Thomas organised opposition to them on the floor of the House, and had the satisfaction of seeing new Ministers take their place. But, broadly speaking, instead of reducing frustration, the groups have increased it.

The most obvious way to improve relations would be for Ministers to encourage well-informed participation in debate. The Opposition, like the Labour Opposition in past Parliaments, works without any rigid separation between the Front and the Back Benches. The Government relies exclusively on the Front Bench for the presentation of its case. Ministers might well regard their supporters as useful light artillery in big debates and supply some of them with ammunition. Consultation, for instance, between Mr. Barnes and those back benchers interested in transport would have greatly improved the debate on the Transport Bill. Well-briefed Government supporters could put spirit into the debate by *immediately* replying to Tory attacks. At present such briefing is unobtainable, and the task of answering the Opposition is left to the Front Bench.

In the second place, all Ministers have long ago recognised the need for intimate relations with journalists. They spend much time and sometimes take considerable risks in briefing correspondents "off the record" so as to ensure a fair statement of their case in the press. But no corresponding service is provided for Labour M.P.s who are far less in the picture than the press gallery. Wise Ministers are selective in their contacts with journalists, and say much more in private than in full conference. No doubt it can be argued that a journalist's livelihood depends on keeping confidences and that a Minister has no guarantee that frank talk with a Party group would be equally respected. But if these fears are justified—and at present they are—then the conclusion must surely be that the groups must be

so reconstructed that all of them, instead of a very few, enjoy the full confidence of the Minister. A "good Party" is at least as important to the Government as a "good press."

Consider one or two concrete examples. The Bill to nationalise iron and steel is not due till the next Session. Now surely is the time for John Wilmot to gather round him a small group of M.P.s—some of them perhaps with no previous knowledge—who are prepared to study the steel industry intensively and to begin preparing themselves for the debate on the Second Reading. The same principle applies to conscription. So far, the Government has not made a very strong case for this measure, which will anyway meet with strong opposition in the Labour movement. Mr. Alexander would surely be wise to consult with some of his critics, and by frank discussion to obtain some really well-informed support from the back benches well before the debate. If he leaves this task until the Bill is tabled, he is asking for trouble.

The Leader of the House would be wise to give a good deal of his attention to this problem of the relations of the Government with its supporters. Formal machinery of consultation is not enough. What is needed is the acceptance by Ministers generally of three principles: first, that "off the record" discussions are as necessary with back benchers as with the press; second, that such discussions should be regarded not merely as an arduous addition to Ministerial duties, but as a source of positive assistance; and third, that M.P.s, like journalists, are usually trustworthy, just to the degree to which they are trusted. No Government has ever had a keener or abler Party behind it. It would be a pity if its keenness were blunted because its ability was not used.

ELECTIONS IN POLAND

[Our special correspondent in Poland sent this dispatch on the eve of the elections.]

THE Polish Republic today faces vast problems—the rebuilding of Warsaw, the recovery of industry, the break-up of the big estates, and a bodily shift on the map. The internal movement of population, running into millions, would tax the resources even of a normal and prosperous economy. Yet all these problems are being successfully tackled by the Government in the framework of a general plan which sets out the detailed changes in production, employment and income, needed to convert Poland from an overpopulated agrarian country into an industrial State, with developed ports and a prosperous agriculture. The Minc Plan, in general conception and detail, is masterly.

Because this work of reconstruction is essential to Poland's very existence, a change in the Government at this moment would be disastrous. The Government programme is so much in accordance with the needs of the new State that the Opposition made no attack on it in the election campaign. Its main points—friendship with Russia, acceptance of the new frontiers, economic reform—are also the main points in the programme of P.S.L., Mikolajczyk's Polish Peasant Party, and it is this that makes the whole contest so unpleasant, and so dishonest. So far as party programmes are concerned, there is no reason why Mikolajczyk should not remain in the Government, and no reason why there should be an election at all. In fact, of course, the issue which is being fought is the Eastern or Western orientation of Poland, and the elections are being held because the State Department and the Foreign Office want to force a decision before the Government has consolidated its reconstruction achievement. But the country really has no such choice. The real alternatives are the continuation of the present policy or internal chaos.

Mikolajczyk, if he were to win the election, could not maintain a stable administration or carry on the economic plan; he has achieved his present position by being the only reasonable politician in the London Government, not by his qualities of leadership. As a middle-way man in the Coalition, he could play a useful part, easing the transition from the old Poland to the new, but as the head of a Right-wing Government he could only play the part of Brüning. If Mikolajczyk were returned to power, said Gomulka, the P.P.R. (Workers' Party) leader and Minister for the Western Territories, in a recent speech, it would mean the return of Raczkiewicz as President and Anders as Commander-in-Chief of the Army; then would follow a struggle for power between the returning emigrants, the underground and P.S.L., in which Mikolajczyk would sink to a minor position. He might attempt to caution the Government against premature anti-Soviet moves, the demands for frontier revision, or blocking Russian transit, but he would be overruled and the result would be Soviet intervention. That is a not much exaggerated view: a Western orientation under Mikolajczyk would mean quick disintegration and suicide for Poland.

In most of the British and American press, this issue has been falsified. The cause of Mikolajczyk has been represented as the cause of democracy, as if the present P.S.L. were the old Peasant Party of twenty years ago. But it is not: it has lost two minor groups, one of which belongs to the Government bloc, the other standing independently. It has attracted into itself all the anti-Soviet elements — the aristocracy, most of the middle class, and the Church. Its driving force, however, is not the dispossessed classes, but the underground organisations, W.I.N. (Freedom and Independence), the successor of the wartime resistance movement, A.K., and the N.S.Z. (National Armed Forces), the Fascists. Though there is probably no direct link between them and Mikolajczyk, there is no doubt that they work in with P.S.L. in the country districts.

Thus it is the old Poland that Mikolajczyk represents: its romantic reactionalism, its blind conservatism, its habit of conspiracy and opposition complex. A wiser man might have used his popularity to turn the nationalism into more constructive channels, and detach it from pure reaction, instead of letting reaction take the lead. Even Mikolajczyk might have achieved this, if he had relied more on his peasants and less on foreign backing.

The Government electoral bloc, on the other hand, represents the new Poland that is coming into being. It includes four parties, P.P.R. (Communists), P.P.S. (Socialists), S.D. (a small group of well-known names, the Democrats), and P.S.L.N.W. (the break-away Peasant group). The Socialists and Communists have agreed on a United Front, while keeping their party organisations independent: the Socialists have 500,000 party members, the Communists 600,000, so that together their organised membership is nearly twice that of the 600,000 membership of P.S.L. In addition to the industrial workers, the bloc can count on the support of the poorer peasants, some of the middle class, and most of the four million new settlers in the Western territories. Its propaganda is an appeal to reason: "Think Honestly," say the Socialist posters. It is evident that the revolution here cannot rely on the tide of national feeling, as it can in Yugoslavia; it must build a new social framework before it can command emotional loyalties. The new spirit is coming into being—instanced by the big increases in output, the rapid rebuilding of Warsaw—but it will take time. There is not the sense of unity that the Partisans have created in Yugoslavia, but there is greater efficiency, and among the Communists a much more sophisticated and clear-sighted realisation of what the revolution implies in their own country. Their attitude to the Church and to private enterprise is tolerant, and they do not want to force sharp changes in national life except so far as the plan requires them. For this reason they are gaining ground rapidly as a positive political force.

Both sides accuse the other of terrorism. Outwardly Mikolajczyk appears to have ample opportunities of stating his case: he holds three press conferences weekly, speaks on the radio, and his paper, the *Gazeta Ludowa*, continues to appear, though P.S.L. posters are not seen in the streets, as the Government blue posters are. His main charges relate to election procedure—the practice of open voting, arrests of candidates (now allegedly totalling 135) representation of P.S.L. on the electoral commissions, and (most important) the rejection of P.S.L. lists. The Electoral Commission accepted P.S.L. lists in 42 out of the 52 constituencies, and refused them in 10. These are large rural constituencies where Mikolajczyk claims that P.S.L. has big majorities, but where the Government claims that the electorate is dominated by the underground organisations. This means that he may lose as much as one-third of his votes, and in view of this disadvantage, his decision to stand, after his rumoured intention to boycott the elections, was extremely puzzling. More probably his advisers in the Embassies, alarmed by the prospect of a complete Government victory, have urged him to take part in the elections, in order to appeal afterwards to the United Nations, and maintain the nuisance value of Polish tension.

Many of Mikolajczyk's charges are, no doubt, well-founded. The Government's reply to them is that the terror starts from the underground, and that no arrests have been made except for illegal activities. There is certainly terrorism in the countryside. In the month of December, 31 members of Electoral Commissions in country districts were murdered, and 28 in the first ten days of January. These murders do not get the same degree of publicity in the foreign press as Mikolajczyk's stories of beatings up and "frozen feet," which are provided at his press conferences. The truth is that to demand "free and unfettered elections" is impossible in these conditions. There is no doubt that the Government is exerting strong pressure: it has powerful weapons, such as the control of housing space, and it uses them. Its most effective weapons, however, are the trials of W.I.N. leaders now being held. That of Colonel Rzepecki, founder of W.I.N. in 1945, is by far the most interesting, since it provides very precise and coherent evidence of the extent of the underground and its London branch. But the real sensation has been the trial of Count Grocholski, now sentenced to death for treason on two grounds, collaboration with the Gestapo during the occupation, and espionage to provide "a foreign Ambassador" with secret information during the second half of 1946. Warsaw opinion takes espionage by Ambassadors for granted, but it is shocked by the fact that the Ambassador had personal connections with a man of Grocholski's reputation.

In this atmosphere it is difficult to assess the voting power of the Government and the Opposition. Mikolajczyk, though far less popular than he was a year ago, still has a large following; and, if all Governmental pressures were removed, would probably get a majority. With the underground organisation as strong as it is, the Government cannot remove the pressures, and in existing conditions will get a majority, its size depending largely on the strength of the Socialist vote. No doubt the British and American press, and Mikolajczyk, will say that the elections were not free; but what then? There is no international machinery to assess the conduct of the election, and no action which Britain can take at this stage. Had British policy really aimed at securing Polish democracy, it should first have liquidated Anders and the London connection, before pressing for elections to be held. That would have weakened the underground, relaxed the internal tension, and the elections could then have been held in a cleared atmosphere, without alienating the Government, and without compromising Mikolajczyk.

Warsaw. DOREEN WARRINER

A LONDON DIARY

MANY inquiries and expressions of desire to co-operate have reached me as a result of a press announcement about the coming visit of Mr. Henry Wallace to this country. I cannot at present give details of his visit, but I can confirm that the Editor of the *New Republic* has accepted an invitation from the Editor of the NEW STATESMAN AND NATION; that he will be here in the spring and will speak at two or three public meetings in company with British speakers of more than one political complexion. His visit should be of great interest. We hope to learn from Mr. Wallace, who is almost the only American Liberal of national standing, about the hopes and prospects of the American Left, which today is lamentably weak and divided. The need is the more urgent since a split in the ranks of the progressive Left has been publicly admitted during the last fortnight. Some day or other a genuine third party must develop in the United States; there is no one in so good a position as Mr. Wallace to suggest ways in which the Left movements in Britain and America can help each other. We hope his visit will be a precedent for others of a similar character from distinguished international figures. We believe that Mr. Wallace has had little opportunity of studying British politics at first hand, and we hope, with due modesty, that while we learn from him he may pick up some useful hints from the progress of the Labour movement in this country.

* * *

Several people who really care about education have told me recently that, though they would not publicly admit it, they think the Government should have postponed the raising of the school-leaving age. Of course there are powerful educational arguments on their side quite apart from the effect on production of reducing the labour force by some 300,000. In many areas, owing to shortage of buildings and staff, the quality of the education provided in the extra year may at first be very bad. Theoretically a case can be made out for not increasing the quantity of education, that is, the period at school, until the quality of the teaching—not to mention equipment, accommodation and transport facilities—is satisfactory. And yet I am certain that the Cabinet was right in refusing to consider postponement. "Secondary education for all" was officially proposed after the first world war. It has been put off ever since, and it will go on being put off until the appointed day is fixed, and held to. One proof of this is what has been done since 1945 in preparation for April 1st 1947. Having set herself an impossible task, the Minister has performed what would certainly have been impossible without that extra spur. Temporary buildings are now at last going up all over the country, and the emergency training colleges are proving how much can be packed into a year's training. By that I don't mean that the students are just being crammed. I visited a college recently which is housed in a wartime hostel, and was tremendously impressed by the "university" atmosphere which had been created by the principal. The students, who were doing their teaching in a nearby industrial town, discussed with me the methods employed in the schools with a most vigorous and healthy dissatisfaction. They had obviously been inspired by a new idealism at the college. Their enthusiasm and readiness to meet the crisis which will face them when they start teaching, would have been quite impossible had the Cabinet decided on postponement.

* * *

The federation of Europe is an old idea which can be accepted under different interpretations by Conservatives, Liberals, Socialists and Communists. Indeed, since Europe is composed of many nations and needs economic and political unity, every thoughtful person will welcome the idea of European federation. But in view of Mr. Churchill's record, his recent speeches and articles in the *Daily Telegraph*, I was surprised that men like Sir Walter Layton, Professor Gilbert Murray and the Master of Balliol, to say nothing of several Labour M.P.s, should have signed a Churchillian manifesto. For Mr. Churchill's line seems designed, not to unify, but to harden and perpetuate the division of Europe, and the manifesto leaves us quite in the dark about whether Britain, in the view of the signatories, is a part of Europe, or whether we are to go ahead with what would be a "Western bloc" if the proposals are not such that the Eastern European States will accept them. I notice that, replying to some of these points in *The Times*, Sir Walter has declared that he is not in favour of a Western bloc and that Gilbert Murray agrees that the way to unity is "functional co-operation." If this is how most of the signatories feel, they were rather naive to accept Mr. Churchill's leadership, and any misgivings they have had since must have been increased by the discovery that John Foster Dulles, the Republican pundit on foreign affairs, has welcomed their initiative.

* * *

Victor Gollancz's *In Darkest Germany* is the climax of a really remarkable one-man effort. Shocked and conscience-stricken by the devastation and misery of Germany, he founded Save Europe Now and won the fight for permission to send parcels to Germany. Not content with the revelations of press reporters in Germany, he went there himself and spent a hectic six weeks badgering officials, uncovering that which was hidden and getting photographs taken. He flooded the press with letters and articles (the two most severely practical appeared in this journal) and during the space of a few weeks has reproduced the articles, with 144 photographs, in book form. (Owing to production difficulties nowadays it usually takes six months to a year to produce a book.) All that Mr. Gollancz says in this book is true, and the facts should be known. It is difficult to overstate the misery of a town like Hamburg. But lest we lose our sense of proportion it is well to remember that over a large part of Germany, village life is practically normal, and that the long series of photographs of broken children's shoes could be paralleled in some other European countries. Those who point out that the Germans who are well off are apparently not at all anxious to help those who are in distress, must remember that while the Allies are in occupation there is necessarily a tendency to assume that all responsibility for relief and reorganisation rests on us. And those who feel that the net result of the Save Europe Now campaign is to lead to a sentimental and indiscriminate reaction in favour of the Germans (and I think this danger exists) should also remember that starvation has the effect not of destroying a country's will to revenge, but of toughening those who survive. I once heard a Cabinet Minister draw this moral from the effect of the blockade in 1918. He replied to those who wondered how the young Nazis managed to be strong in body in spite of rickets and disease in post-war Germany, by saying that the effects of such deprivation are to weed out the weak and to produce a race which has been made physically and mentally tough through hardship. In brief, you must look to other means than starvation to reduce the military strength of Germany. If the experiences of 1918–33 produced Nazis, I sometimes think that Allied policy after this war is calculated to produce a race of hyenas.

* * *

It is odd to reflect that the American State Department can send dozens of protests to Poland about the way it comes by its Government, but has no power to protest against the Brown House methods through which the State of Georgia has appointed its governor. The American Constitution indeed precludes the Federal Government from examining the claims of Mr. Herman Talmadge to be governor of Georgia. The claim in fact has an interesting history. Mr. Eugene Talmadge was chosen as Democratic candidate for the governorship in a primary election last spring. A feature of his campaign was the threat of violence if Negroes voted; a third of the population was thus successfully kept from the polls by intimidation. The result of this free and open election was triumphantly vindicated last November when "Gene" was elected governor by an almost unanimous vote in an election distinguished by that lack of disorder which is so admirable a feature of the single-list, single-party system. A month before he should have taken office Mr. Talmadge died. His deputy—the lieutenant-governor—claimed the office, but the legislature, elected with the same scrupulous honesty as the late Mr. Talmadge, decided that Gene's son Herman should be governor. The existing governor, Mr. Arnall, who has fought for some measures of decency in Georgian politics, refused to hand over the office. He was then forcibly restrained from re-entering the governor's mansion by the storm-troops of Mr. Herman Talmadge, who had "elected" themselves into it. Mr. Talmadge now appears to be willing to submit to the vote of the people—so long as he can decide who are the "people." But if the Federal Executive has to keep quiet, the press of the United States does not, and outside the South it is united in denouncing this back to 1860—or on to 1933—movement.

* * *

While talking to German prisoners of war the other day I stumbled on a very singular scandal. The pay due to them for their work on the land or on building sites is very wisely set aside for them, apart from small sums that may be drawn as pocket money. These accumulated earnings are paid to them in marks when they are repatriated. But the rate of exchange is at the pre-war level, 15 to the £1. Actually, the official rate under the Occupation stands at 40 to the £1. Even at this rate the discrepancy is shocking. But "free" prices in Germany are so inflated that the mark is worth a mere fraction of its nominal value. Friends recently returned from the British zone tell me that its real value, apart from rationed goods, is more nearly 400 than 40 to the £1. However this may be, the rate of 15 to the £1 is sheer robbery.

CRITIC.

THIS ENGLAND

A 5/- prize for the first entry in this column goes to W. E. Garton.

Paste entries on postcard or slip of paper and give details of origin. Address to THIS ENGLAND, 10 Great Turnstile, W.C.1.

Flat, Scarborough, rent free for services experienced lady driver, cook-housekeeper; preferably Christian; or shorthand-typist.—*Scarborough Evening News.*

It reflects great credit upon our profession that political considerations have found no expression in our reaction to the new Act.—Letter in *British Medical Journal.*

Democratisation of the Royal Air Force takes a big step to-day. The Air Ministry pronounces that, except on formal occasions, officers of the rank of air vice-marshal to air chief-marshal are to be addressed as air marshal.

That's just the right stimulus for recruiting.—*Daily Express.*

When my neighbour was a rat catcher he was a friendly man, but since the Council designated him a "rodent operative" he seldom speaks to anyone in our street.—Witness at Kent Court.—*Evening Standard.*

Adml. Sir Geoffrey Layton, C.-in-C., Portsmouth, who has made inquiries into the religious knowledge of men of 18 and 19 now joining the Navy, said to-day that he found only 23 per cent. who could repeat the Lord's Prayer word perfect.

Twenty per cent. were partly correct, and 40 per cent. could give only the opening words. Although 70 per cent. know who Christ was, only 20 per cent. could say where He was born.—Report in *Daily Telegraph and Morning Post.*

THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF FUSION

LAST July, the Office of Milgov Germany (U.S.) Economic Division, Trade and Commerce Branch, was already offering German goods for export. It sent Messrs. Löwener of Copenhagen a quotation for slip gauges, manufactured by Hommelwerke of Mannheim, to be delivered in December. This might merely have been remarkable as an example of American enterprise, were it not that Messrs. Löwener are the agents of a Coventry firm, one of the largest gauge manufacturers in Britain, and the Hommelwerke gauges were thus being offered in direct competition with British goods. When the Anglo-U.S. Economic Group of the fused Zones is in full function, will this example of German competition under Allied patronage be multiplied?

Here is the British dilemma in Germany. To remove the galling saddle of an £80 million annual deficit in our Zone, we must enable the Germans to pay their way. This has meant abandoning not only the immoral and uneconomical project of pastoralisation, but also the little brothers of pastoralisation—the stripping and transfer of machinery and the depressed level of steel output. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has been especially hurt by having to pay reparations to Germany, has said that a major reason for economic fusion of the Anglo-U.S. Zones is to save the British taxpayers' money. By 1949, he hopes that the fused Zones, an arbitrary administrative area without organic unity either political or economic, will have a favourable balance of trade which will simultaneously relieve the British taxpayer of his German burden and enable the Germans to have a 2,500 calory standard of life. The export target for 1949 has been stated by the Control Office to be £300 million. Should the taxpayer be eased at the cost of forced exports from the Anglo-U.S. Zones which will directly clash with British overseas trade?

The direction of exports from the fused Zones must primarily be to the West, since the Russians, in present circumstances, will not easily admit them into their Eastern sphere, though they have recently made exceptions. The Anglo-U.S. Economic Control Group, charged with the task of reaching a high export figure, will have a professional interest in achieving it. They will try to expand the output of china, ceramics, optical goods and pharmaceutical products. These exports will compete with British products only in a minor degree, though the optical and pharmaceutical industries have been stimulated in Britain by war. But Nymphenburg china, camera lenses and aspirins won't add up to £300 millions. That figure can only be reached by exporting machinery, machine tools, electrical equipment, coal and steel.

In 1930—a peak pre-Hitler year—the Germans exported over £300 millions to Western Europe and most of this came from the Ruhr basin. Britain with 2½ millions and Germany with only slightly less unemployed, battered each other in the fight for markets. In 1947, Western Europe, hungry for raw materials and tools, can absorb, and can continue to absorb within the next two or three years, all that Britain, America and the fused Zones can supply. And then? Is it not clear that unless the industry of the fused Zones is fitted into a European plan, its exports, injected with American enthusiasm into the hard currency areas, will directly injure British trade?

German industry was only 25 per cent. complementary to British industry before the war. Hitler turned his back on the direct collision with British trade, not from love of Britain, but in order to integrate Germany, the workshop, with Eastern and South-east Europe, his farm. His long-term policy was a pastoralised Europe with Germany as its industrial heart. Though his purpose was a savage one, he recognised that a proper outlet for German industry—and in particular, the Ruhr industry—lay as much in the East and South-east as in the West.

How can the Ruhr industry best serve the interests of Europe and cease to be a charge on Britain? A first condition is the economic unification of Germany. Though some may wish to perpetuate its partition for political reasons and may even approve of Zonal fusion as a political end—the economic reasons for unification are irresistible and well known. The industry of the West and the food of the East can only combine to repair Germany and the German standard of life if there is economic unification. An increase in internal trade will substantially reduce the level of exports necessary for Germany to be self-supporting. For some months, the suggestion has been made that the Russians will agree to economic unification if reparations are paid from current production. Obviously, neither Britain nor America could agree at a time of deficit that the Russians should extract as reparations what they themselves fed into German industry. But is there any reason why, in years when there is a favourable balance of trade, Germany should not pay a percentage as reparations? If the Russians agree to this in principle, there is no justification in resisting the setting-up of a German Export-Import Bureau for an economically unified Germany.

Politically, it may be undesirable for the Ruhr to fall into too close an economic association with Russia. But it is possible as well as desirable for the Ruhr to serve both East and West. The Ruhr can help to rebuild Eastern Europe by exporting finished products—machine tools, rolling stock, engineering and electrical material; it can help the prosperity of Western Europe by exporting raw materials and semi-finished goods which will, in turn, stimulate finishing industries in neighbouring countries.

The present economic policy of the fused Zones, carried to its logical conclusion, means that British administrators in Germany will, with American help, prepare a heavy rod for the back of British industry without, in the long run, helping Germany. Deprived of American help, the British taxpayer suffered for the isolation of the British zone. With American help, British trade is likely to suffer through the effort to boost German exports. Only economic unification of Germany will serve the threefold purpose of helping the British taxpayer, safeguarding British trade and raising the German standard of life. Payment of reparations from current production in years when there is a favourable export balance would be a reasonable price for the Germans to pay, and a reasonable policy for the Foreign Secretary to support, in exchange for Russian agreement to economic unification.

MAURICE EDELMAN

A SHOP WINDOW OF DEMOCRACY

AMONG the many changes of political attitude that the last few years have brought in the Far East, that of some of the younger Chinese towards Hong Kong is one of the most significant. Prior to the recent war, Hong Kong to China was as Gibraltar to Spain, a constant source of irritation to the intelligentsia and to those who were nationally conscious. Lately, however, increasingly during the last few months, there has been a change in this attitude and some of the intelligentsia are saying that whilst their long-term aim is that Hong Kong should be a part of China, at the moment they do not desire that it should return to the national government.

The reasons for the change are three-fold. First, such a transfer of Hong Kong would, it is now seen, greatly increase the prestige of the reactionary element in the National Government and make more difficult the task of democratic and progressive forces in China; secondly, the recent experience of Formosa under the National Government has been far from happy; and, thirdly, it is now realised that Hong Kong might be made a shop window of democracy.

The Chinese intelligentsia are becoming more and more disheartened with events in China. They do not believe that agreement between the Kuomintang and the Communists is likely and they have little hope of the development of progressive movements in China. Their pessimism is not dispelled by the liberal form of the new constitution, which was adopted recently by the National Assembly in Nanking (largely due to intervention by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek) even though it does, nominally, lay the foundation of democratic government and envisages a time when China will no longer be under the one-party rule of the Kuomintang. Time will show how far their scepticism is justified. The immediate prospect in China is not comforting, and the contrast between Nanking and Hong Kong is sufficiently striking.

In Hong Kong we have in the very centre of the Far East the opportunity of providing a shop window of democracy; one where we can demonstrate, by a rapid progressive movement towards self-government and, where practicable, a substantial measure of nationalisation, the twin foundations upon which prosperity in the Far East can be based. As to self-government, that will undoubtedly rest upon adult suffrage irrespective of community. I, personally, am very much opposed to communal representation. When the franchise is granted to any of our territories in the Far East, it is only by a representative realising that he is responsible to his constituents as a whole, irrespective of race or religion, that democratic government will begin to operate. When in the final stages there is a legislature founded on representative democratic principles, it will also, of course, mean that the executive will be responsible to ministers deriving their authority from the legislature. Last, there is the Governor himself, who, in years to come, could well be a Chinese; this would give immense satisfaction in China and, even now, I would suggest that a Chinese resident of Hong Kong should be appointed Lieut.-Governor. It is of the greatest importance the Lieut.-Governor should be a man of Liberal ideas who realises that Hong Kong can be an asylum for Chinese democrats who are, to an increasing and alarming extent, finding it difficult to live and work in China. Many Chinese who used to urge that Hong Kong be returned to China are today deeply grateful for the part that Hong Kong, under the British, has played as a refuge from political persecution and they feel that the need for such a refuge is by no means at an end.

As we have found by experience in this country the best way to build up an effective democratic movement is to start with sound trade unions and co-operative societies. The masses are realising throughout the East, to an ever-increasing extent, that their enemies are not coolies in another religion or of another race, but their age-old economic enemies. These foes can only be countered by trade unions, co-operative societies and the Labour Party which will grow out of them, and these bodies will provide in themselves experience of democratic government and a development of brotherhood. In addition to these means, which are, of course, paramount, there are others, minor, but still important, in the furnishing of the shop window. Among these I would rate, highly, Hong Kong University. In the past, this University has been chiefly noted, at all events, outside Hong Kong, for its medical and engineering faculties. It has served a wide area of the Pacific, and from as far away as Malaya

it used to be quite common for young men to enrol as students, but Hong Kong University can play a much larger part than it has done in the past if it be enlarged and developed to serve the great need which exists. The young people in the Far East, including China, would appreciate a first-class department of Political Science and Economics where they could learn the answers or, at all events, study the problems, created by the new situations developing in the world, matters which so vitally affect them. Then, too, there should be a great department of Oriental studies, so that the ancient and modern culture of the Far East and particularly of China could be made known to those who desire to cultivate this field of knowledge. In other words, whether a man is a disciplined follower of Confucius or under the romantic spell of Taoism, he should find guidance at this seat of learning. Hong Kong University can, therefore, play its part as a great pulsating power-house of ideas in the Far East, serving not merely British possession, but China and other countries as well. Finally, such matters as child welfare, the position of women, public health and education generally must be the best possible and can serve as objects of study by people from other countries.

To sum up, Hong Kong can and should be made by us a little model State, politically, economically, culturally, educationally and socially. By so doing, not only will the inhabitants benefit immensely, but also as part of the shop window, they will satisfy a need over a vast area in which more and more people are desiring democracy without the experience or the opportunity of considering it at first hand.

The British no longer regard Hong Kong as a strategic base. From this point of view its futility was proved in the last war. Indeed, our whole position in the Far East has changed. We are no longer an Imperialist Power so far as China is concerned. We could no longer supply arms or sterling to foreign countries even if we so desired. But we can supply goods where other badly-needed goods can be exchanged, and we can supply ideas, the most potent export of all. And with this export we must show by our institutions and our good administration how such ideas can be put into practice.

D. R. REES-WILLIAMS

THE NEW GEOGRAPHY

[*Future historians will distinguish the year 1946 as marking the "revolution in geography" which speeded the world's conversion to an entirely new conception of itself, in a period comparable only with the Renaissance and the Great Discoveries. A chapter from a future history book might read something like this :*]

IN 1946 the agonised globe, at last really aware that it was a sphere and not a cylinder, rolled over on to its equator, presenting to delegates at the first general assembly of the United Nations its cold northern face.

In that year, for the first time in history, representatives of the nations sat before a huge azimuthal projection of the earth, including both hemispheres, the southern encircling the northern. Accustomed to maps in the classical Greek tradition, which Mercator had followed and adapted mathematically for mariners and discoverers in an expanding *œcumene* (habitable universe), they were awed in New York to see their own countries stretched "lengthwise" and twisted banana-wise to surround the North Pole, where there are no hours except according to national standards and the day itself is always yesterday or to-morrow. "Anyone would think," a delegate was reputed to have remarked sardonically in French, "that we revolved around it."

The North Pole had now in fact become the centre of the earth, and the Arctic the "middle sea," replacing the classical Mediterranean. For reasons of climate, now "equalised" by aviation, and of commerce, the earth had discovered not only its own shape, but a natural "centre" upon its own surface, belonging neither to "East" nor to "West." Such was the logical consequence of the last of the Great Discoveries—that the Arctic was as navigable, by air, as the Atlantic or the Pacific, and that its conquest shortened by thousands of miles the direct routes between more distant points on the earth's most habitable belt.

The traffic map of the future Northern Hemisphere, it was now realised, could take only the outline of a wheel with the Arctic as its hub. At the Pole itself the North-to-South great circles would intersect—such as the spokes connecting New York with Chungking and Perth, the rice route between Chicago and Calcutta, the "Magic Carpet" from Teheran to San Francisco, and the great panclimatic circular with its vital junctions, Cairo-Leningrad-Spitsbergen-North Pole-Alaska-Honolulu-Tahiti-South Pole-Capetown-Cairo.

The practical use of the azimuthal projection, polocentric or otherwise, was not new. The polar tangent had been used by explorers. During the Second World War, when U.S. aircraft supplied Britain and Russia respectively across Baffin-Greenland and Alaska from Western Canada, convex segments of the Northern Hemisphere and polocentric azimuthals had been used strategically. They turned the stomachs of American Russophobes and Isolationists. The British Premier, Winston Churchill, did not like them. They offended his sense of East and West, which Mercator's venerable longitudes, true to the compass and to the nautical tradition, sustained so admirably. Thinking at 90 degrees to Aristotle—whose hemispheres had been Northern and Southern, of which the Southern was the "more noble"—Churchill preferred at military conferences to see as ellipses what the Americans and the Russians studied as gnomonic straight lines (flat equivalents of great circles). And at the end of the war, civil airlines had produced "national" azimuthals of their own, showing great circles radiating from their own main airports. A fine and decorative specimen of such a map, London-centred, was produced by the British cable concern, Cable and Wireless.

In New York, in 1946, the case for standardising the northern polocentric projection, as best suiting universal diplomatic purposes as well as commercial, became evident. The North Pole, as a universal map-centre, commended itself to the nations for several reasons. For one, the Pole, having only geographical position and no magnitude among the Powers, had no political axe but only the geographical axis to grind. "Geography," it was already said, "is future history," and the "One Worlders" were not slow to point out to traditionalists that the Empires themselves had been founded politically upon commerce and upon the structure of their communications which maintained it, the flag following trade. The new geography, they said, by altering the structure of world trade, would compel the nations either to wage war for the control of the new structure, or to agree to subject its control to supranational government. For another, the world's new centre might as well be a sea and therefore international. The magnetic force of the Pole was now exerted politically.

At the conference itself the Arctic was but little discussed, although Molotov on an occasion, averting his eyes from the centre of the map, asked disingenuously why the Americans were showing so much interest in "those remote regions"—where, indeed, all contiguous nations were busy establishing meteorological and other bases. American strategists, more overtly than Norwegian or Russian, had referred to the Polar Circle as the centre of any future war, prophesying that, in its event, their Continent would be "attacked from the air across the Arctic by atom bombs a thousand times more destructive than the Hiroshima bomb." In 1946 the United States army was reorganising to meet the eventuality. The Russians and the Canadians, respectively, claimed all territories, discovered and undiscovered, in their own sectors of the Arctic.

The countries the most concerned, for their own reasons, with checking the alarm were the small countries of the European North, on their own sector of the Arctic between the Canadian and the Russian. They were aware that the fact of their being populated would not prevent their occupation by the one belligerent, followed probably by the destruction of their cities by the other ("protection" and "liberation") if war broke out between the resentful "East and West"—wherefore they encouraged the substitution of the Aristotelean "North and South" as geopolitical conceptions, King Haakon personally discouraging Winston Churchill from lecturing in Norway after his famous speech at Fulton. It was useless for them to form a local defence *Bloc*, as for them there was no defence against the new weapons—and as for the rest of Europe it lay only to their south, parallel with the earth's axis and on the site of Hitler's ill-fated political "projection" of it. Lest a part of the world decide that there was more to be gained in any sense, or less to be lost, by war than by peace, the European North strove to create conditions in which the opposite could become true. They believed that the most urgent economic problem of the day was the restoration of world trade. Sweden and Iceland followed Norway and Denmark into the United Nations.

Sweden's entry, coinciding with an important trade agreement with Russia—Sweden already had bilateral agreements with nearly every European country—increased Soviet confidence in that "Western" country. Moreover, towards the end of the year the Soviets, which had been excessively chary about entering into any international air agreement, relented specifically in the North European direction—to the gingerly extent to allowing the Swedish commercial airline to resume its service with Helsinki, to connect with the Helsinki-Moscow route. The indication, it could appear, was that Moscow measured the immediate importance of countries by the degree in which they were also esteemed by the "West." At the same time, they opened discussions with the Norwegians for a reciprocal defence agreement resting on the use of Spitsbergen as a base.

More than most other countries in Europe, the Northern countries had for long enjoyed the confidence of the Americas. And in the aftermath of the war, while the Communists made political progress elsewhere in Europe, the Social Democrats in the North, on the whole, maintained their position. The democratic North stood politically as well as geographically between the East and the West. For climatic reasons the Northern Mainland depended upon trade and therefore upon peace.

In Norway internationalism had become a creed. Norway had more tonnage in relation to its population than any country in the world, and was therefore more familiar with the "doctrine of the sphere." The first secretary-general of the United Nations, "the world's first citizen," Trygve Lie, was a Norwegian, to which fact he owed his position at the helm, lest the ship of the World State encounter difficult diplomatic seas.

In the reshaping world the Danish part of Europe remained still by far the largest outside Soviet Russia, but the geographical crisis made the Danes for the first time aware of their size. Greenland had hitherto been an unimportant colony, maintained at a loss. It was now almost at the centre of the world, its east coast in particular affording possible sites for airfields and servicing stations. Iceland and Norwegian Spitsbergen, both more temperate than Greenland, and the Scandinavian mainland would provide other stages on routes from North America to most of Europe, the Middle East and part of China. Alaska would connect parts of North America mainly with the Far East.

Ultima Thule, at which the Romans had shuddered, had become the Icelandic Republic. The thermometer, destroying the Latin illusion, proved its temperature in the winter to be no colder than Milan. It produced grapes in greenhouses heated from bountiful hot springs, and satirists, divided into two schools. There were those who claimed that America, having been discovered by Leif Eiriksson, belonged to Iceland.

The "liberal" school rejoined that Leif had lost his Icelandic nationality through long residence in Greenland, to which America therefore more properly belonged. They agreed, however, that the prevalence among the lower latitudes of the belief that Columbus, and not Leif, had discovered the Western Hemisphere was an illustration of the vanity and the historical dishonesty of Southerners. The history of the world should be rewritten on the foundation of the story, not of Greece and Rome, nor even of more ancient China, but—for the sake of its importance to the future—of the land mass round the North Pole, cradle of seafarers and of spherical thought.

ERIC DANCY

TROPICAL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

JAMAICA is at the present time the scene of an experiment in colonial democracy. In 1944 the people were given, for the first time in their history, the opportunity of expressing their power. The new Constitution was designed on a basis of adult universal suffrage. The system chosen was a mixture of representation and responsibility. There are three Houses. The House of Representatives is elected to represent the 14 parishes of the Island. From the majority party in this House are selected five Members who constitute a kind of Shadow Cabinet. They work in conjunction with five nominated members of the Governor's Executive Council. The ten, presided over by the Governor, constitute the Government of Jamaica. The Governor retains a veto power. In between is the Legislative Council of officials and prominent private citizens—a Jamaican House of Lords with similar functions.

How does the system work? Criticism in the Island varies from those who say it is a necessary intermediate stage in the development of full responsible government to those who maintain that the whole experiment was designed by Tory politicians in London with the intent of proving the impossibility of giving political freedom to the colonies. Objective opinion might be that the system could work if Jamaica possessed political angels. Unfortunately, Caribbean politics do not take place in heaven. Or, again, it might have worked had the House been composed of two parties in fairly equal numbers. As it is, the general election of 1944 swept into power the dynamic figure of the Hon. Alexander Bustamente. His Jamaica Labour Party captured 24 seats out of 32. His opponents, the People's National Party, obtained a mere four seats.

The riots of 1938, the actual hunger of the people, and the clash of two outstanding personalities provided the background for the extraordinary tragi-comedy of politics which is being played out in the tropical sunshine. N. W. Manley, who leads the P.N.P. is probably the only statesman-like figure in the British West Indies. His party for long advocated universal suffrage and West Indian self-government. Their programme is in essence Socialist. The T.U.C. affiliated to the Party is affiliated to the T.U.C. in Great Britain. The policy and attitudes of the P.N.P. are the nearest thing to British politics in the Caribbean.

Bustamente represents primarily himself. He is regarded as the Messiah of the Jamaican masses. His trade union is entitled the Bustamente Industrial Trade Union. He is the permanent President, all the other officers are removable at his whim. All moneys come to him and he is accountable to no one. No union member has ever received strike pay. Yet the Chief, as he is called, remains the idol of the masses. His followers are entitled to wear a uniform; at street meetings they parade around with drums. Hymns are sung and tirades delivered against the P.N.P. Two favourite songs are a calypso called *Busta's Trial* and *Death to the P.N.P.*

During the recent by-election in the parish of Hanover to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the sitting member, Bustamente issued a manifesto to the electorate. This extraordinary document crystallises the political feeling in Jamaica today. It reads in part: "If you use the commonsense God gave us all, you will choose the strongest Party with the Leader who has taken an interest in you not only today but ever since his return to this country. . . . The P.N.P. which is the Minority Party, only has FIVE members in the House of Representatives who CANNOT help you in any way . . . . Voters of Hanover, think of your Children, your families, yourselves and your country. . . . The P.N.P. is impotent, absolutely useless and you would be crippling the future of yourselves, your children, your families, your parish, if you were to support that worthless Party. . . . . Today on the eve of election certain persons are flocking to Hanover to spread worthless propaganda against the J.L.P. among you; people whom you never saw or heard of before; people who before election deafened their ears, blinded their eyes to your cries and sorrows. . . . Find out why the political rejects flocked to Hanover. Like Nicodemus they come by night, but to deceive you; after election you will never see or hear anything about them again."

Typical of Bustamente's speeches in the House are these extracts. "I claim nobody in this country not even the Governor himself knows anything more about the science of government than I do and I claim I see further than many of them on the official side of government. I owe no obligation to them, and it is a humiliating position for big men and women to be in after they have left their mother's embryo long before. If anyone in this country believes that I am satisfied to be in embryo they are labouring under a misapprehension. I am suffocating. It is not time to revolt yet. I will soon revolt though . . ."

On another occasion, when debating the question of wage increases for government employees, the Chief said: "There are many wrongs. I have always lived under the British flag, a flag I adore because if I did not adore the British flag for the long period of years I lived abroad I would have changed my citizenship. If I did not adore the British flag and if I did not love the country of my birth I could have changed my citizenship years ago to my financial advantage, but due to the fact that I do not worship the flag—for there is only one man I should worship, that is God: I do not worship it, I adore it, and I know the difference between adoration and worship—I do not worship the flag or any man; but I adore the British flag, I am no hypocrite, if I did not adore the British flag, if I did not love the British flag, I would have changed it. Not because I despise the American flag; I want to be very frank; I respect it, but if I did not adore the British flag I would have changed it for the flag of the Spanish Government in Spain or the American flag . . . I am as just as great a man in this country as anyone who ever came here, and I am second to none mentally, physically, financially, socially . . . [Interruption.] Those who do not want to hear had better keep quiet and listen to superior intelligence and honesty. I am saying that amongst the evils under the British flag . . ."

And so it goes on session after session. The Speaker lives in dread of the Chief. He breaks most of the rules of procedure and order, depending upon his mood. Sanity has a very still, small voice in the House.

But it would be a mistake to assume that while Jamaica is passing through a minor economic crisis, the unemployed increase daily and Bustamente performs his antics in the House, therefore the experiment in self-government is a failure. Actually thinking people in the island regard this Plaza-Toro world as a necessary phase of development. The Jamaican people were almost entirely neglected from the Emancipation of slavery in 1838 until the riots in 1938. They cannot be expected to achieve political maturity overnight. But if they were to be deprived of the constitution which guarantees to them at least an expression of political freedom it would hamper the progress which is necessary. Bustamente will go on and on until the people wake up to his absurdities.

But Jamaica has to pass through this stage. Perhaps a Chief was necessary as a preparation for real democracy in an island where there is a powerful Messianic religious tradition.

Kingston, Jamaica. LUIS TOLEDANO

PAINTING AND THE NATIONAL INCOME

"ENGLAND must export." Corollary, she should export goods on which the greatest profit is to be made. At the present moment there is no item of export on which the same profit is to be made as on paintings. A picture by an accredited master fetches a price that has scarcely an economic relation to the cost of the raw materials required—a bit of canvas, a tube of paint, a stretcher—or of the labour hours employed by the painter, his models and servants, by rent, heating and lighting. The profit may range up to thousands of time the outlay.

It is not enough that the artist should be accredited at home, that he should be highly thought of, discussed, disparaged and wrangled over in the studies of Chelsea, St. John's Wood and Bloomsbury. His reputation must cross frontiers and oceans, must dart over Germany to Uzbekistan and across Atlantics and Pacifics to Empires and Dominions overseas. Then and only then do the products of his workshop become a national asset and he a goose laying golden eggs.

It is too late to tap this matchless source of profit now, but the Government should lose no time in starting schools of painting and accompany them with schools of advertisers. They should be made a national concern as they have been in France for all but three centuries. The harvest that France has reaped, and is still reaping owing to this early sowing, must stand her in good stead in this hour of need.

It would be interesting to know what the export of contemporary paintings—not of "Old Masters"—has added to the income of the French people during the last 80 years, that is to say ever since there started a demand, first in the United States and then elsewhere, for Millet and other artists of the Barbizon school, then for Manet and the so-called "Impressionists," followed by the galaxy of genius still producing masterpieces for which fabulous prices are being paid.

This demand is based on real merit. French painting for the decades following 1860 has been as universalised as French (so-called "Gothic") art of every kind was in the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. England alone held out, but only to the end of the 19th century. Since then native sources have run dry, and English painting, like painting elsewhere in the white man's world, is watered by springs that bubble up in Paris. Russian and Italian, German and American, Scandinavian and Spanish will seem to enjoy a certain independence. When you look close you see that it is chiefly a matter of local colour and costume in the subject matter. In all that is essential, they are as French as any Frenchman of the same competence; and we must not be taken in by what seems originality and is only incompetence.

None the less, merit alone would not account for the spread of French painting the world over. There is the fact of Paris as the most attractive gathering place in the white man's world. The artist in whatever art, be it visual, verbal or auricular, the thinker, the scientist, the scholar, all can learn something there or—more important—be stimulated and given zest for learning. This holds more for the painter than for others. The painter finds there not only academic studios, teachers and masters but fellow students from every corner of the world, who come there not as one goes to school in a routine way, but as to the most marvellous of all adventures, where, if ever, he will live intensely and realise himself completely. What would have become of a

Whistler had he stuck to his native Baltimore, or of a Sargent at Philadelphia, of a Boldini at Ferrara, of a Modigliani at Leghorn, of a Sert and a Picasso at Barcelona? Local celebrities no doubt and nothing more.

Some of the most successful—nearly all those just mentioned—remain in Paris for the rest of their days and their immense earnings increase the national wealth of France. Most return to their own countries or drift to where they thrive. Wherever they go, they go as advertisers of contemporary French painting. That is spontaneous, and the more so as the returned native at Czernowitz, Bucarest, Berlin, Madrid, Philadelphia and even New York looks back with increasingly nostalgic glamour to the months or years he spent as an aspirant in Paris.

Not quite so spontaneous, although I have never been able to discover any trace of deliberately organised propaganda, is the attitude in Paris of the Government organs, of the press, of the public, of society, of men of letters and above all of the trade. Nowhere on earth is the emergent artist of promise favoured and his success applauded as much as in Paris. The journalists and dealers cannot do enough to praise the favourite, to explain him, to evaluate him, to boom him. Visiting critics are roped in, dined and wined until their eyes are opened to see what they are wanted to see. One almost suspects organisation of some sort, in the nature say of what one feels but scarcely sees in the mass-enthusiasm accompanying processions at Lourdes. Look at the results. The English people by their authoritative art organisation are invited, commanded almost, to take train from anywhere between John o' Groat's and Land's End to see and worship the works of the most successful of these Parisian painters. Quarrels ensue, threatening to be as serious as over theological questions at Alexandria and Constantinople, and nothing advertises like fierce disputes. In Sioux City, in Wally Wally, in Tombstone and many other American cities courses on Picasso are announced and students—female mostly—are encouraged "to major" in them. (I do not quite know what it means "to major." Presumably it is something nice.)

What can English painters do to get as talked about, as appreciated, as written about, as discussed and above all to get as well paid as the Parisian painters whom the English public so generously and so suicidally does so much to advertise? Remember that England still remains the lawgiver to its cousins overseas and that its enthusiasms are loudly echoed by them.

Can nothing be done to turn some channels of the golden Mississippi into the Thames without diminishing the Seine?

The Victorian era seems to have impoverished the English genius for painting as much as the seventeenth century Puritanical reaction enfeebled its gift for drama and music. Surely the England that produced the galaxy of portraitists ending with Lawrence, and landscapists dying in beauty with Constable and Turner, are not physio-psychologically unfitted to paint. The reason for the decline in pictural genius cannot be constitutional and must be relatively superficial.

First and last the English must get over their inferiority complex which drives them at the same time to deny their present incompetence and to despair over it.

They must not doubt their innate gifts, their superiority to most Europeans in conveying not only verbally but visually a sense of the fanciful, the imaginative, the romantic. The now so despised Victorians had a Burne-Jones, a creator of wistfulness, and in Watts an allegorist—who leaves out of sight Frenchmen like Gustave Moreau—still greatly admired by many painters and many critics among his own people. Can we wonder that others take the English at the valuation of their lion-whelps and jackals? They must recover a well-considered conceit of themselves.

They must learn to draw. How long does it take a medical student to get his degree? Six, seven, eight years before he is allowed to practise. How many youngsters are ready to work as hard learning to draw? Yet drawing is as difficult and takes as long a training and without it the painter is only the kind of practitioner that the doctor is who has but a fake degree.

Nor can he begin soon enough. It is too late if he starts as a Cambridge or Oxford graduate, and besides by that time he has learned too well how to express himself with words to feel the imperative need, even if he reached the ability to express himself in visual form.

Then he must not have the ambition to become a fashionable portraitist and to exhibit at the annual cattle-show at the Royal Academy. Effigies and Icons of field-marshals, admirals, royalties, ladies of fashion do not nowadays conduce to art; for the uniforms, the decorations, the gowns, the coiffure in these strange anthropological exhibits are expected to absorb the painters, energy with little left over for the creation and interpretation of character. An effigy, the British public must learn, is a work of art only in the sense that Madame Tussaud's wax-works are works of art.

Having learnt to draw and then the relatively easier discipline of painting, let the artist express himself—if he can afford to wait so long.

If not—there's the rub—how is one to provide for his livelihood without reducing him to be the slave of a sordid dealer or other kinds of task masters? In the States after the panic of 1929, the New Deal tried to make work for thousands of painters at public expense. They were kept alive but I have not heard of the masterpieces they have created.

Which leads me to a prime consideration, namely, the need of turning public opinion against persons too lazy and incompetent for any kind of hard work being allowed to take to painting as an easy and economically and socially remunerative career, expecting to live on private sympathy and public doles the whole of their long lives. Indeed I have dreamt of societies for the suppression of unpromising painters. If despite discouragement they make good they will be much the better for it.

So much for the painters. And now for the propaganda. There is no lack of a certain sort. Indeed, far too much, but it is apt to be cranky, cliquy, fanatically sectarian. It seldom takes hold of the people who count at home and almost never gets abroad.

Since the great period (1750—1840) no school of English painting has received the attention that the Pre-Raphaelites had. Yet few of their canvasses have left the country to go as missionaries for British art on the Continent, and overseas. In our own day we have had in Augustus John a painter who if like Picasso, Soutine, Chagal, Dali, etc., etc., had settled down in Paris would now be selling like the most enriched of that glorious company. Being British, he was half-admired by the critics—how frightened they are when they try to speak seriously of a painter who is not Parisian!—taken up by Society, become a dashingly smart Bohemian and the best of him is now engaged in writing his memoirs with a verve and brilliance he would have done better to devote to his art. I know of no other professional painter in our midst who could be marketed in the States and bring in much-needed dollars.

Finally the English must be more tactful as well as more hospitable, caressing, flattering even to individuals of their own language group whether they come from New Zealand or New Brunswick, from the Cape or Colorado. Even if it cannot be done by generous hosts or State-endowed hostesses there should always be on hand a Vollard or two to receive influential critics from abroad, with the sure hope that they will return to their homes praising and magnifying English studios and their output. Then and only then shall England be able to export articles that require little outlay for raw materials and relatively little labour and incidental expenses.

BERNARD BERENSON

The Arts and Entertainment

RADIO NOTES

THE public inquiry, "Do listeners get what they want?" established a number of views, some of them new and interesting, others old and dull. Among the latter was an ill-founded complaint that the B.B.C. "does everything on the cheap." This has now become demonstrably false; and to the same category of grousers belong those people who (as a beardless boy courageously pointed out) expect broadcasting to minister to their own particular interests at every moment of the day. More reasonable were the demands that "Today in Parliament" should take place earlier, and that both sides should be represented in political debate. The difficulty about the first is, I believe, that at an earlier hour Parliament is still sitting, so that the report would necessarily be inconclusive. That could not be helped, neither would it matter very much, since the object of the broadcast is primarily to give an idea of the quotidian aspects of democratic government. To place this feature immediately after the 9 o'clock news would mean in effect a 30–35-minute news bulletin bang in the middle of the evening. This would damage the period allotted to dramatised broadcasts, which (as the "public inquiry" also showed) are becoming increasingly popular, especially with young people, who complain that plays are too exclusively relegated to Saturday evening. I find this last assertion rather surprising; but at least it is a matter for rejoicing that dramatic programmes are at last receiving general recognition as the essential stuff of radio. A further complaint—that the B.B.C. does not stage enough controversy of all kinds—has been widely canvassed of late, and I notice that my colleague, Mr. W. E. Williams, whose judgment I respect, has been sniping at the Third Programme on exactly these grounds. It does, indeed, seem wrong that, for instance, the subject of the recent Transport strike was not more thoroughly exposed on the air, so that very few people seem really to have known what the row was about. But surely the place for debates of such general interest as this is the Home Service—not the Third, which can at present be heard only by a fraction of the listening public. Mr. Williams went on to deplore the sacrifice (on the Third) of the sciences, physical and social, to music and literature. I should have thought the reason for this was plain: Science is not very amenable to the microphone—does not, nor ever could, make such good broadcasting as music and literature (i.e., poetry and drama). Even if religious and other kinds of controversy became more general, music and literature must, in the nature of things, retain the lion's share of the Third Programme. Mr. Williams deprecates what he calls the "Man of Sensibility," for whose benefit, he says, the Third is now exclusively planned. It is true that it is so planned; and I venture to suggest that, in the present state of the world, broadcasting in general—and the Third Programme in particular—should aim at the dissemination of just that sensibility decried by Mr. Williams, among ever-wider circles and age groups of the population.

The Crisis. A most interesting and fertile idea, brilliantly illustrated in the first instance by V. S. Pritchett, whose "discovery" of Spain and the books of Unamuno was profoundly suggestive and very beautifully written. Implicitly, these are religious (not necessarily Christian) broadcasts and should stimulate controversy—of the most useful kind, because least dependent on verbal scoring—between listener and speaker. I should like to see this series extended to include a specifically religious crisis, and others involving philosophic systems, scientific knowledge, an event or action of contemporary history, and even the meeting with some particular type of personality which had had a revolutionary effect on the speaker's mind and outlook.

Original and Translation. These excellent programmes would be 100 per cent more satisfactory if the English version were broadcast *before*, not after, the original. Little pleasure or instruction can be

derived from listening to a poem of which one does not even understand the drift, let alone the exact meaning. In especially difficult cases, and where the poem is quite short (i.e., a sonnet) it would be well to have the English twice—on both sides of the original.

EDWARD SACKVILLE WEST

THE MOVIES

"The Secret Heart," at the Empire
"Lady Luck," at the Astoria
"Easy Come, Easy Go," at the Carlton
"The Testament of Dr. Mabuse," at the Everyman

There is an epidemic of transatlantic measles (*Rubeola vociferans*) among those who dawdle too long in cinemas. Its symptoms are increasing lethargy (with a tendency to hang one's legs over the seat in front), technicolor rash, jabber, a rapid blinking of the eyes and, in acute cases, split-personality.

I found *The Secret Heart* very trying despite the fact that it rose to a Debussy waltz. How quickly one gets sick of that waltz, which ended up, by the way, with full orchestra in a horrible "arrangement." And the characters never just played the piano: they wrung it or dug in hot pincers. The father had "a genius for music," so he stayed in big business and glowered at his wife—Claudette Colbert by the way—and drank and mauled the piano when they were supposed to be going out to dinner. Then he jumped over a cliff, and his daughter grew up with a Daddy-and-Debussy fixation. No wonder. All day long she would play in an upstairs room "for him": it took a hell of a time coaxing her round to play for all of us—because she had genius, too—and on that note of promise, I am thankful to say, the film ends. But not before *she* had threatened to jump off the cliff too, leaning over and with poor Miss Colbert having to chase her in a car and lug her back at the edge. Music and psycho-analysis—oh lord! And money, you can't have all this hullabaloo without money. And Mr. Lionel Barrymore as the sage of the consulting room: Mr. Pidgeon as the faithful sportive lover waiting his turn (ten years or so!). The sanity in these films is a good deal worse than the lunacy. But there was Miss Colbert, of course.

She is on the screen most of the time, and while she's there one needn't look further. One can develop a trick—which I recommend to others—of enlarging the screen in one's mind's eye and looking at it *selectively*. Here, instead of taking it all in, and even thinking about it—horrible mistake!—one might merely enjoy Miss Colbert's looks and charm and attire—that's where money must come in—to the exclusion of everything else. How skilful she is; she has the secret of continuously delightful behaviour. Now, if we catch her unflickering interest, we may find it not such an awful film after all. And some of the others weren't bad: June Allyson as the girl, for example. Nice smile—when she got the chance. And there were some genuine touches of jealousy to redeem the whole situation.

But poor Miss Colbert having to exclaim (with feeling), "It doesn't make sense!" as perplexed lovers always do in films, and being in love the whole time with her old Pidgeon without knowing it! She doesn't look as if she wouldn't know such things.

The other two films are both about gambling, and it would be hard to say which is more unenthralling, the great poker game in *Lady Luck* or the horse-race in *Easy Come, Easy Go;* though *Lady Luck*—with those old-stagers, Frank Morgan and James Gleason—manages to be pretty lively.

At the opposite pole to all this filmgoers may prefer to make a journey to the Hampstead heights where, this week and next, they can enjoy a revival of a classical thriller, *The Testament of Dr. Mabuse.*

WILLIAM WHITEBAIT

ROUND THE EXHIBITIONS

THE Anglo-French Art Centre is not easy to find but its inaccessibility is one of its chief attractions. In the old days, the thrill of driving for the first time into the village of Morra, or entering the musty cemetery chapel outside Monterchi, or climbing the hill to Castiglione d'Olona, was not exclusively an interest in Signorelli, Piero or Masolino. You take the train to the Underground Station of St. John's Wood, one of the finest modern buildings in London, calculated to keep you in a good temper if, from then onwards, you lose your way. Down Wellington Road, you take the first on the right and the second on the left, and with any luck you will hit upon No. 29 Elm Tree Road. An atmosphere of purposeful energy greets you on arrival. This is an Art Centre, not an Art Gallery, so that you may expect to find other forms of activity besides an exhibition of works of art in progress: students are being taught to paint and sculpt on the principles of an *Académie libre*, there are tables and chairs and clinking cups of tea, a library with the latest art publications from Paris, and, on certain days in the month, lectures on current art problems by leading artists and critics. At present there is an Exhibition in the main gallery of tapestries, gouaches and drawings by Marc Saint-Saëns. Even in his most casual drawings, Saint-Saëns reveals his talent for large-scale decoration, and his gouaches, which in the company of tidier pictures might seem coarse or strident, should be thought of as part of the decorative scheme of a crowded room. The tapestries are designed for display, not in the intimate sitting-rooms where the broad splashes of colour would make conversation impossible, but in restaurants, cafés, dance-halls, or in any centre of public entertainment where the main masses of the composition would immediately be apprehended from a distance, and the bold design would enhance the gaiety and liveliness of the party. There is hope, in this new school of tapestry weaving from Paris, for a great popular art, a truly modern equivalent of the posters of Chéret and Toulouse-Lautrec, which will find a niche for itself in the socialised city life of the future.

At the opposite extreme, the delicate harmonies of green and blue by Bonnard, Vuillard and other painters of the late nineteenth century, now represented at the Redfern Galleries, are designed to be propped up on shelves in private libraries, surrounded by yellow-bound books and by all the clutter of useless possessions which lend charm and personality to a domestic interior: the back numbers of magazines, the used pipe cleaners, the fragments of china, the trays of rusty paper clips. Degas's drawings and Gauguin's early (provided that they are early) landscapes can just be squeezed into this narrow category of taste, but it is more complicated to explain how Odilon Redon, two of whose pictures are shown, should still be sought after by the few remaining private collectors—Redon, who is more akin to the spirit of Gustave Moreau than to Vuillard, who, it will be remembered, cast a spell on the languid figure of des Esseintes. Here is an example of a painter who has survived, not for his treatment of form nor for subject-matter—of interest only to psychologists, surrealists, art-historians and aesthetic revivalists—but for sheer technical accomplishment.

Technique is the chief merit of some minor works by minor French painters of the last century exhibited at the Beaux Arts Gallery in Bruton Place. Specially notable are a liquid sketch of Trouville by Boudin, a group of tree cutters in a wood by Troyon, some oysters by Ribot, but a view of the entrance to Fontainebleau attributed to Corot, which has received undeserved publicity, should be approached with caution.

BENEDICT NICOLSON

BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW

NOT until 1947 has anybody thought of *Carmen* as a conductor's opera, and yet it was quite evident at Covent Garden the other night that the public regarded Mr. Karl Rankl as the hero of the occasion.

Sex, Friendship and Marriage

KENNETH AND FRANCES BARNES

"An excellent introduction to social, family and sexual life. Although written simply, it is never namby-pamby, and lacks entirely the sentimentality which has destroyed so many books on the subject."—*The Times Literary Supplement*

"An eminently sensible and practical book, and one which could be studied with advantage by all contemplating matrimony and by parents of young children"—*Congregational Quarterly*

"Covers the subject very well, both on its mental and its physical side"—*New Generation*

3rd impression 7s. 6d. *net*

George Allen & Unwin Ltd

Is the Roman Catholic Church a Secret Society?

by JOHN V. SIMCOX

With a foreword by Dr. G. G. COULTON

A correspondence with the late Cardinal Hinsley and others about parental rights, and reports of speeches by Warren Sandell and Raymond Winch before the Catholic Society of University College, London. *Paper cover, 2s. net.*

The Vatican and the U.S.A.

by AVRO MANHATTAN

Most observers of the political scene are aware that the influence of the Roman Catholic vote has been exerted in American elections, but few will be conscious of the great pressure applied by the Papacy in almost all spheres of life in the U.S.A. Here the facts are for the first time plainly set out for British readers.

Thinker's Forum, 6d.

C. A. WATTS & Co. Ltd.
5 & 6 Johnson's Court, Fleet St. London, E.C.4.

Ready 27th January

ORION III.
A Miscellany
Edited by C. DAY LEWIS, D. KILHAM ROBERTS and ROSAMOND LEHMANN
6/- *net*

THE EARLY DOORS
HAROLD SCOTT
A well-documented history of Music Hall up to 1900. Illustrated.
12/6 *net*

THE BED: or
The Clinophile's Vade Mecum
An anthology compiled by CECIL and MARGERY GRAY
Illustrated by Michael Ayrton. 12/6 *net*

A PL Book

THE WAY OF LIFE ACCORDING TO LAOTZU
Translated by WITTER BYNNER
An excellent verse translation of the sayings of this ancient philosopher.
4/6 *net*

NICHOLSON & WATSON

Our Inner Conflicts

KAREN HORNEY M.D.

Dr. Karen Horney is the author of a number of psychological works, THE NEUROTIC PERSONALITY OF OUR TIME, SELF ANALYSIS, etc.; she is now Dean of the newly-formed American Institute for Psychoanalysis. In this book she writes for the ordinary man and woman and shows how they can themselves go a long way towards alleviating their own mental troubles.

10s. 6d. net.

KEGAN PAUL

In this they showed a perfectly sound instinct: the performance had been admirably rehearsed and its merits were those of a sound collective enterprise. Throughout the evening fine points of workmanship, which generally go for nothing, shone out to remind us that there is scarcely a dull page in Bizet's score. The chorus were outstandingly brilliant; I doubt whether their predecessors were ever half so vigorous and accurate in the palmiest days of Calvé and De Lussan. The orchestra too—though I should have welcomed a more voluptuous tone in the *intermezzi* and a jauntier rhythm in the *Séguedille*—gave a first-rate account of the score, shapely, full-blooded, yet judiciously tempered by Mr. Rankl to the demands of the stage. Add a highly effective décor from Mr. Burra and a display of dancing in the last act far ahead of the old-style routine *divertissement*, and what more, you may ask, could we want?

The answer is painfully simple: better singers. Miss Edith Coates is not an insipid Carmen, on the contrary, she has plenty of confidence and vigour; but she is so determined to prove herself the toughest moll in Seville that she constantly allows her tone to become raucous and unsteady, and as soon as that happens, *entre nous tout est fini!* Of Micaela no more is required than a blonde wig, two lovely blue eyes and a pure *legato*; one of these ingredients was missing—must I say which? Kenneth Neate showed promise as Don José, but it was not really kind to cast him, at this stage in his career, for so exacting a part in so large a house. Dennis Noble was a professionally effective Escamillo and David Franklin an amusingly characterised Zuniga; over the smaller parts I prefer to draw a veil.

Everyone wishes the new Covent Garden Company a prosperous and brilliant career, and it would be more agreeable to praise their maiden effort without reserve.

* * *

A single performance was given last Monday at the Westminster Theatre of two Chinese operas, *Mademoiselle Phœnix* and *Fisherman's Revenge*. As far as I could discover by assiduous questioning, no sharp line exists in China between opera and play, and most plays have as much music as these two specimens. In Western nomenclature they are singspiels, in which sung passages alternate with others more or less spoken. I say "more or less," because Mme Y. S. Chen, who appears to be the moving spirit in this enterprise and is professional in her accomplishment, adopted even in her *parlando* passages a curious semi-musical intonation, half-way to recitative, each phrase ending with a gentle slither like a gramophone running down. The other performers mostly spoke in a more ordinary fashion, and in *Fisherman's Revenge* one of them greatly amused the audience with gestures and intonations which seemed influenced by Western ideas, perhaps by the films.

The music is traditional and not written out, the instrumentalists (in this case two Chinese fiddles, sounding rather like the bagpipes, cymbals and high-pitched gong) following the course of the play instead of the players following the music. The themes were pentatonic and in the key of D; singing was from the throat, not from the chest; Mme Chen goes up to F sharp, her male partner in *Mademoiselle Phœnix* to tenor A. The plot of this piece is charming: there are only two characters, the sixteenth-century Emperor, Cheng-teh, travelling incognito, and the inn-keeper's pretty sister, Phœnix Li, who entertains him in a remote town. She is the Eastern equivalent of a *soubrette*: demure, mischievous, with a strong will of her own. The piece is a prolonged flirtation, in which the pair play a series of simple ruses on one another; Phoenix Li is usually the more successful, so that at last her imperial admirer has to play his trump card and reveal his identity—no more is required. A deliciously courteous and civilised air pervades the conversations, which at moments recall those in Lewis Carroll; and the stylised ease of Mme Chen's gestures and movements are those of a practised dancer. Some of the costumes and highly coloured mask-like make-ups are very beautiful, but the few stage furnishings seem to European eyes of unworthy quality. Altogether it made a fascinating evening. I hope that the modestly named Chinese Amateur Theatrical Society succeeds in its aim of establishing itself on a permanent basis.

DESMOND SHAWE-TAYLOR

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

to any address in the world

Yearly, 32s. 6d.; Six months, 16s. 3d.; Three months, 8s. 6d.

By Air to any country in Europe, £3 yearly; to Canada and U.S.A.: Yearly, £3 15s. ($15); Six months, £2 ($8).

Residents in North America may remit to British Publications Inc., 150 East 35th Street, N.Y.16, N.Y.

To other countries by special quotation.

NEW STATESMAN AND NATION

10 Gt. Turnstile, London, W.C.1. *Hol.* 3216.

POSTAGE on this issue is: Inland 1½*d.; Foreign,* 1*d.; Canada,* 1*d.*

THE THEATRE

"The Alchemist" at the New Theatre

The success of the Old Vic's *Alchemist* is, in the main, remarkably complete and straightforward. It is true that, for all its convenience of speed and simplicity, I was not much taken with this particular example of the permanent set. The house with the movable walls stares back at us too squarely, and confines almost too much of the action to that most valuable area of the stage, the central middle distance. Somebody has had one bright idea too many, also, about the dresses, which, instead of belonging to 1610, the period of the play, are "set a century later" in order (according to the programme note) to demonstrate the universal nature of the satire. If the universal nature of fancy dress remained instead the prevailing impression, is it not just because these comedies of Ben Jonson were so precisely contemporary that he remains contemporary for ever? Were not his plays stuck so deep in the quick of his own period that we never think of period at all till we see actors, dressed in the epoch of Middle Snuff, talking the language of Primitive Tobacco?

But these are small faults to lay against the most honorific, because the most difficult, success of the Old Vic Season. Ben Jonson is "rare" not only in his virtues but in his faults. With more than his fair share of the Elizabethan love of verbal involvements, and less of the redeeming gift of poetry, much of Ben Jonson's wit needs a glance down to the footnote at the bottom of the page before we can laugh at the joke. Mr. John Burrell has side tracked this difficulty either by making quick-fire incomprehensibility the amusing point of the speech involved, or by deflecting the attention of the audience from the speakers to the silent but expressive countenance of Face, who interprets the meaning with his eyebrows. Ben Jonson, too, has a bad habit of hanging on to a scene till the bitter end. Mr. Burrell's cuts are judiciously helpful. Jonson's characters are limited by the doctrine of the four Humours and the four Qualities, a doctrine of personality which tends to recur among the scientifically minded, who refer to it at one time as the "prevailing passion," at another as "the secretions of the endocrine glands." This limits each individual in the drama to one characteristic per head, and ensures that he makes his final exit with precisely the same traits, exhibited in exactly the same proportions as those which he demonstrated in Act 1. Mr. Burrell has overcome this difficulty, too, by using to the full the warmth, the subtlety and the humanity of his wonderful actors, who are individually capable of giving depths to a point, and solidity to a straight line. More im-

£10,000 UNITED NATIONS
Literary Competition Selection

CHARLES KINGSLEY
AND HIS IDEAS
A biography by
GUY KENDALL, M.A.

This biography of a celebrated Victorian deals more with Kingsley's ideas than with the man. The author has a great knowledge and sympathetic understanding of his subject and Charles Kingsley is vividly portrayed both as a man and a writer.

Large Demy 8vo. 8 illustrations
Now ready 21/- net

HUTCHINSON
& Co. (Publishers) Ltd.
Largest of Book Publishers

Studies in Biblical Law
DAVID DAUBE
An attempt to reconstruct from biblical narratives ancient Hebrew Law as something separate from religion. 21s. *net*

Strategy in the Second World War
A. H. BURNE
An examination of allied and enemy land operations in relation to general strategical theory. 5s. *net*

*

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

FABER BOOKS

INSIDE OUT **Adrian Stokes**
Part-autobiographical, this sensitive study by the author of *Venice: an aspect of Art* reveals the working-out of an individual's relation to the external world. 8/6

LAND AND MOTHERLAND
G. T. Wrench
Fresh and practical suggestions for the development of India, by the author of *Reconstruction by Way of the Soil*. 7/6

INFORMAL EDUCATION
J. M. Brew
Dr. Brew is well known for her original and stimulating approach to educational and social problems, and she shows how people of all ages can be guided into developing their individual characters. 10/6

ANNALS OF INNOCENCE AND EXPERIENCE
Herbert Read
A new and revised edition of Herbert Read's autobiography. 10/6

NOW READY

Pascual Duarte's Family
CAMILO JOSÉ CELA
Translated by John Marks
The lot of the Spanish peasant has probably never been more graphically presented.
"A blazing masterpiece. But not for children, that is if there are any children these days."
James Agate. 7s. 6d. *net.*

More Deadly Than the Male
AMBROSE GRANT
A remarkable gangster story of London in the 1930's by a new author whom the publishers believe to be one of their most interesting discoveries for many years. It deserves to be treated as picaresque literature in the same rank as Dashiel Hammett and Raymond Chandler. 9s. *net.*

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE

portant, since the theory of the Humours allows little place for humour, each has his or her own particular sense of comedy. Nothing could be more individual than Miss Redman's interpretation of Jonson's formula for slut, nor more palpably full of good human meat than the mask of the epicure which Jonson contrived for Mammon. Mr. Copley's Ananias is no whit less amusing than Mr. Richardson's Face—though both Ralph and Relph, the Alchemist, have this preponderating merit—that they are almost always on the stage.

STEPHEN POTTER

ATOMIC LOVE

A Hollywood film on the atom bomb has led to a storm of protests by American scientists.—News Item.

THE atom was jealously guarded
But Hollywood purchased the rights,
And the drama of nuclear fission
Is ready for world exhibition,
Depicting the neutron bombarded
In an orgy of Physicists' Nights.

The scientists raise pandemonium,
The picture is false and unreal,
But Hollywood love bids defiance
To the claims of dehumanised science
For thorium, uranium, plutonium,
Have little box-office appeal

Can you dramatise nuclear reaction?
Can you glamourise U.235?
It is surely completely admissible,
Since the atom itself is invisible,
To weave in a counter-attraction
Which makes the whole thing come alive!

The drama of cosmic destruction
Is based on the short gamma ray
But the deuteron, proton or neutron
Give little or nothing to shoot on—
It may be an atomic production
But love always finds out a way.

The atom researcher discovers
New life in the barren expanse—
Love in the lab., by the pile,
Love with a tear and a smile—
The atom's a background for lovers
And the theme is atomic romance.

SAGITTARIUS

Correspondence

POLITICS IN THE ARMY

SIR,—In view of the proposals for a measure of conscription which will shortly come before Parliament, it is of some interest to examine the way in which the Army is making use of the human material at present available to it. In this connection I have had brought to my notice an individual case which raises some important general principles.

It is that of a private soldier who happens to have been known to me personally for about ten years. He is a man with a first-class degree in Modern History and of outstanding intellectual ability. During the war he worked in an aircraft factory and was repeatedly deferred (against his own will) until the spring of 1945. During the time that he was in the aircraft factory he was known as a member of the Communist Party and as a very active member of his branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. I have in my possession a letter sent to me by the general manager of the works and also the letter which he addressed to my friend at the time of his eventual call-up. These letters pay tribute to the constructive and able manner in which he led trade union activities in the factory and to the assistance which he gave in securing maximum production.

He went into the Army at the beginning of March, 1945. He was recommended by the Personnel Selection Officer for the Intelligence Corps and was posted for training with that arm of the service. After a few weeks he was suddenly posted away from the Intelligence Corps to an Infantry Training Centre. In June, 1945, he applied for transfer to the Army Educational Corps—for which his academic record and his experience of trade union activity both would suggest that he is fitted. In August he passed a War Office Selection Board and was accepted for the Educational Corps by a Command Education Board. Four weeks later, that is to say early in September, 1945, his unit was informed that he was not "considered suitable" for the Army Educational Corps.

This man has now been in the Army nearly two years. His substantive rank is private. On three separate occasions he has been recommended by specialist Boards for transfer to the Army Educational Corps, but on each occasion his unit has been notified that this transfer is not to take place.

Perhaps the Army Educational Corps has already too many officers and N.C.O.s? On October 16th the Chief Education Officer of the B.A.O.R. where my friend is now serving issued a document marked "Important and Urgent" of which the first paragraph ran

> This is the third occasion on which I have had to appeal to all members of the Army Educational Corps in B.A.O.R. to obtain their support in making a determined effort to recruit new officers and other ranks for the Corps, and I do so because the present position is so serious that unless something is done quickly to make good our deficiencies the whole fabric of Army education in B.A.O.R. may break beyond repair.

This document must have been issued just about the time that my friend had been accepted for the third time by a specialist Board and rejected the third time on the instructions of the War Office.

I have pursued this case at some length with the War Office. It has had the personal attention of two successive Secretaries of State. The final answer was given by Mr. Bellenger in the House of Commons in November when he stated in reply to a question that he was aware of the facts of the case but that "it is a matter for the Army Council to decide the Corps in which a soldier can best serve." Replies to subsequent questions showed that he was not prepared to budge from this position; and a further general inquiry about the number of times on which the Army Council has intervened to prevent commissions being granted to men who have successfully passed War Office Selection Boards or to prevent transfers from one arm of the Service to another which have been recommended by specialist interview boards produced the reply that no figures were available.

Thus it appears that the Army Council possesses a discretionary power which it has exercised on an unknown number of occasions, to prevent men from serving in the rank for which they have proved their capacity or in the arm of the Service for which their suitability has been recognised by a specialist selection board. It may very well be that a man with a first-class honours degree and a capacity for leadership, demonstrated by his trade union activity, is, in the opinion of the Army Council, more effectively utilised as a private in the infantry than as an officer or N.C.O. in the Army Educational Corps (even though he is spectacled and nearly thirty). Alternatively, it may merely be that the politics of this individual do not suit the Army Council or M.I.5.

Had I not known him personally I might have accepted the view of which the Army authorities at first tried to convince me—that he was not really up to the standard required. If that be the case, then clearly the War Office Selection Board machinery needs some overhaul and the three separate Selection Boards which judged him suitable for the A.E.C.

Suzanne and Joseph Pasquier
GEORGES DUHAMEL
Translated by BEATRICE DE HOLTHOIR
'Admirers will delight in this new Pasquier sequence of Suzanne and Joseph—close, realistic, vigorous, and painting life with the combined passion and unblinking attention of a master. It is a powerful, generous, brainy book, of a kind to revive, even in a fiction reviewer, faith in the eternal greatness of the novel.'—KATE O'BRIEN (*Spectator*). *10s. 6d.*

Modern French Literature
DENIS SAURAT
Among the authors included in this study are Rimbaud, Mallarmé, Loti, Barrès, Rolland, Duhamel, Gide, Supervielle, and all who come at once to the mind as part of the literary structure of the period.
'So well written, so packed with vivid and sometimes sensible remarks, so replete with information, that it causes more pleasure than irritation.'—HAROLD NICOLSON in *The Daily Telegraph*. *16 portraits. 12s. 6d. net*

DENT

HARRAP

The Ghost and Mrs Muir
R. A. DICK
In this delightful first novel, a youngish widow, in flight from the oppressive rule of in-laws, finds herself involved with the ghost of a sea-captain who once owned the cottage she rents. This amusing and sometimes pathetic story is developed with skill, imagination, and a touch that is both warm and light.
Ready Feb. 11. 7s. 6d. net

GEORGE G. HARRAP & CO. LTD

Dangling Man
by SAUL BELLOW
"I praise this new author for taking imaginative fiction back to its true origins, the isolated heart, the questioning, separate human soul."—*The Spectator*. 8s. 6d.

Poems From New Writing
"In itself this anthology gives pleasure, as does everything well done, and it will take us one step towards realizing the sum of poetry achieved in our time."—*The New Statesman*. 8s. 6d.

The Golden Ass of Apuleius
An unabridged reprint of the famous Elizabethan translation by William Adlington, with an Introduction by Louis MacNeice. 8s. 6d.
No. 1 in *The Chiltern Library*.

JOHN LEHMANN

READY SHORTLY . . . . .
LEONARD COTTRELL'S
ALL MEN ARE NEIGHBOURS
A reflective travel book based on a 10,000 mile journey over the Atlantic routes with Transport Command and B.O.A.C. His story covers a wide range of subjects from the lives of the trappers in Labrador to the position of the negroes in the West Indies
★
28 FINE PHOTOGRAPHS
★
10/6 net
MAURICE FRIDBERG
DUBLIN LONDON

were all wrong. Since it is hard to believe that these various Boards were wrong (and the Army Council by some brilliant intuition had to correct their mistakes), I am forced to the opinion that political prejudice is being allowed to hamper the development of the Army educational programme. It would be interesting to know whether there are any other cases of people whose qualifications have been recognised by Selection Boards but rejected by the Army Council.

CHARLES SMITH

House of Commons.

BURMA—A SENSE OF PROPORTION

SIR,—In your issue of January 11th, in a discussion of the visit of the Burmese delegation to this country, you speak of "the Burmans themselves" as being "enthusiastically conscious of the part they had played in the liberation of their country." Presumably this statement refers to the role played by the Anti-Fascist League partisans during the closing months of the Burma campaign, a role the importance of which it has become the fashion in the last few weeks to exaggerate greatly.

I have no wish to depreciate the work done by these guerrilla forces. By their efforts they considerably facilitated the main advance down the Pyinmana-Rangoon road; they themselves killed large numbers of the Japanese and took many prisoners; their assistance, as an intelligence screen to the road-bound 12th Army after the capture of Rangoon, was very valuable. But it is both unjust and untrue to suggest that these forces played a vital part in their country's liberation. Burma was liberated by the 14th Army—not by the Anti-Fascist Peoples' Freedom League.

We would do well at this moment to remember how the re-entry of that army into Burma took place. During the period 1942–44, when the fighting zigzagged across the mountain lands of the northern tribes and the Arakan, at a time when it appeared far from obvious that we would win the war, it was the hill tribes who helped us. It was these peoples—Chins, Kachins, Nagas and many others—who did all in their power to facilitate our re-entry to Burma over the tangled mountain ranges and the great Chindwin River.

During this same period many Burmans (not least of whom were members of the A.F.L.) were actively co-operating with the Japanese. It was not until the beginning of 1945 that they found it politic to change sides once more.

Furthermore, I do not think that it will be disputed by the military authorities competent to speak on this subject that for every three Japanese killed in action by the Anti-Fascist League at least four were killed by the remarkable series of guerrilla operations in the Karen hills. What that Karen effort represented will only be appreciated by those of your readers who know what fraction of the total population of Burma the Karens comprise.

My point is that we must not allow ourselves to be stampeded into the belief that public opinion throughout the length and breadth of the country known as Burma is reflected in the speeches of the leaders of the Anti-Fascist League. It should scarcely be necessary to emphasise this. But in England the state of public ignorance of Eastern affairs is appalling; and matters are not improved by the periodical one-sided publication, in certain sections of the press, of only some of the facts of the case.

It seems that the Kachins are preparing to form themselves into a separate State. There are indications of a like movement among the Karens. The Nagas, Shans and Chins may follow their example. The British Government gave an undertaking that these hill peoples would not be forced to enter into a Burmese constitution. This promise must be kept.

In conclusion I would add that I am deeply interested in the mental processes which lead some writers to describe U Aung San as a "statesman."

A. W. MACDONALD

St. John's College, Oxford.

TOO MANY ACQUITTALS?

SIR,—In 1935 Lord Sankey, then Lord Chancellor, delivering judgment in the House of Lords in the case of Woolmington v. Director of Public Prosecutions, said:—

> No matter what the charge or where the trial, the principle that the prosecution must prove the guilt of the prisoner is part of the common law of England and no attempt to whittle it down can be entertained.

Lord Atkin, Lord Hewart, C.J., Lord Tomlin and Lord Wright concurred.

The common law of England is the common law of the U.S.A., and America has preserved some safeguards of individual liberty, such as the Grand Jury, which we have given up. Never since Stuart times has there been such need for the protection of the individual against the executive as there is now.

Mr. Rolph says:—

> In France, if the police say that you have committed a crime, it is for you to prove that you haven't; in England, the police must prove that you have.

Mr. Rolph prefers what, with doubtful accuracy, he alleges to be the French system. He thinks the law of England is wrong in regarding it "as infinitely worse that an innocent man should be convicted than that a guilty man should go free." It is a fair inference from his article that he considers Magna Carta, the Petition of Right, and the Habeas Corpus Act to have been based on mistaken principles. Hitler, Goering and Himmler would have approved the views of Mr. Rolph. Sir Chartres Biron, who had wide experience, said, on the contrary, that every guilty man who was acquitted was a bulwark of English justice.

It is suggested by Mr. Rolph that the basic principle of our system of criminal justice should be reversed because:

(a) "about a quarter of all the people tried by jury for criminal offences are found 'not guilty.' Of these, the greatest majority are, in fact, guilty."
(No evidence whatever is given in support of this statement.)

(b) After a person has been found "not guilty" he cannot be tried again, whatever new evidence may appear.
(This may be an argument for the Scottish verdict of "Not proven," but not for putting the onus on the defence.)

(c) Acquittal has a bad psychological effect on the guilty, and upon "defrauded or frightened prosecutors—particularly women victims of assault."
(The effect of a wrongful conviction is much worse.)

At present it is probable that more guilty persons are acquitted by juries than innocent persons found guilty. Before lay magistrates the proportions are reversed. Were the presumption of innocence abolished a far larger number of innocent persons would be convicted and no one would be safe. Individual liberty would be at the mercy of the executive. What conceivable chance would the average man have of proving his innocence? It cost £1,526 11s. 6d. for Wallace to get the verdict which found him guilty of murder set aside. And many innocent men plead guilty for various reasons.

I have had over 30 years' experience of the criminal courts, both for the prosecution and defence, and I respectfully agree with Lord Sankey and his colleagues, and not with Mr. Rolph and Herr Himmler.

C. L. HODGKINSON

Imperial Buildings, 23, Bridge Street, Walsall.

[Mr. C. H. Rolph writes: "I read this with dismay. I didn't express any views at all, and I share Mr. Hodgkinson's abhorrence of those which, with the awful ingenuity of the zealot, he tries to father on to me. Some of his own comments about juries would have pleased Himmler and the others, too—I

W. E. Woodward
TOM PAINE
A new and definitive evaluation, by the noted American historian, of the life and work of the author of *The Rights of Man*.
Ready Feb. 13. *18s. net*

G. de Ruggiero
EXISTENTIALISM
with introduction by
RAYNER HEPPENSTALL
"This translation of Ruggiero's brilliant refutation of existentialism is wholly opportune."—*Harold Nicolson in Daily Telegraph.*
6s. net

George Orwell
ANIMAL FARM
Now again available. *6s. net*

SECKER & WARBURG

Coming Jan. 27
THE TAILORS' CAKE
Noël Devaulx
Brilliant and disturbing stories translated from the French by BETTY ASKWITH. 7s. 6d. net.

MIKE
William Stobbs
For children. The story of a tom cat who saves his parents' home by winning a boxing match. Illustrated in full colour. 6s. 6d. net.

Coming Shortly
HEINE
François Fejtö
A new biography, giving a vivid and balanced account of a great European and his contemporary setting. Illustrated. 18s. net.

ALLAN WINGATE

THE BODLEY HEAD
Ready
5s.
LAURENCE WHISTLER
the verses by
REX WHISTLER
the faces by
¡OHO!
the faces by
REX WHISTLER
the verses by
LAURENCE WHISTLER
Ready
5s.
THE BODLEY HEAD

CHATTO
NOW AVAILABLE
AN ALMANAC
Norman Douglas
2nd Imp. 6s. net
IT MAY NEVER HAPPEN
V. S. Pritchett
2nd Imp. 7s. 6d. net
THE STEEP ATLANTICK STREAM
Robert Harling
2nd Imp. 7s. 6d. net
WIND OF FREEDOM
Compton Mackenzie
3rd Imp. 15s. net
BOOKS

wish there were space to quote from the book he published in 1932. (But I will tell him what they are, if he likes.) The point is that, since the jury system is about to be re-examined, we might as well know what it is we are examining—what, for example, it costs in injustice and frustration. What on earth is to be gained by ignoring the costs or being rude to those who venture to point them out? Great lawyers like Sir James FitzJames Stephen have advocated the abolition of juries, but this was before Mr. Hodgkinson, Mr. Himmler or myself were born. I happen to believe profoundly in the jury system (having studied it at close quarters for many years), and I am slightly bewildered at having got in the way of Mr. Hodgkinson's celebrated brickbats."—ED. *N.S. and N.*]

KING JESUS

SIR,—Mr. E. E. Kellett has misread my *King Jesus* towards the end. To pretend that Pilate was weak would have been to disregard the testimony not only of Josephus but of Philo, and I have not done so. It is clear that he blackmailed the Sanhedrin junta, not they him. If we can trust the early Christian interpolation in the Armenian Josephus he made about 300,000 *aurei* out of the business.

About Zachariah's blood. I am having some correspondence about that in *The Times Lit. Supp.* with D. L. Scott who disagrees with both Mr. Kellett and myself and holds (with the early *Gospel according to the Hebrews*) that the Zachariah mentioned by Jesus died in 750 B.C., not A.D. 68. An equally unlikely date.

"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" does not make sense as referring to the crucifixion party: they needed no forgiveness since they were not Jews. I don't know whether Westcott understood this, and therefore assumed the saying to be a Western forgery. If this was the reason, there was no need for his assumption: because "they" (if I have got the story right) were the disciples, not the Roman soldiers.

As for the potter. There is no reason to question the genuineness of the potter in *Zechariah* XI 13. He was evidently a Gideonite craftsman with no more right, from the prophet's standpoint, to be in the Temple than the horses and mules with heathen amulets hinted at in the later chapters. The prophet, insulted by the priests who valued him, when he wished to sell himself as a Temple-slave, at 30 shekels, the minimum price allowed in *Leviticus* 27, grew angry and cast the purchase money back to be trodden into clay by the unclean potter. That Judas knew just what he was doing, both in demanding thirty shekels as the price for Jesus's life and in casting it to the potter, and that the Treasury officials eventually saw his point, is proved by their scrupulous purchase with the unclean money of the potter's field as a cemetery: *Aceldama*.

ROBERT GRAVES.

Mallorca, Spain.

ENGLISH PAINTING

SIR,—In your issue of December 21st Mr. Benedict Nicolson outlines the changes which have taken place during the last thirty years in the evaluation and development of English painting.

During the course of his argument—that English painting has gained by the enforced insularity of the war—Mr. Nicolson writes of myself (and others) as having *turned their backs on Paris to seek inspiration in the English romantic movement of the early nineteenth century.*

I cannot let this pass. Current art criticism is peculiarly absolutist; and here is yet another example of the habit of art historians to oversimplify—to label, and to pigeonhole.

I do not deny that I received great adolescent stimulus from Palmer and Blake; but that does not mean that I turn my back on Paris. The question of influences is not as easy as that, and is surely a more complex and subtle matter than can be covered by such snap judgments.

Painters are affected by things which come to them from all over the place; from many kinds of painting and from many things.

One absorbs what one needs at a given time.

On the question of insularity. Mr. Nicolson affirms the impossibility of generalising about the virtue or vice of its effect on individuals.

Surely if English painting is to gain strength, in the long run it will do so in the open, where the eyes and mind are exposed to the widest variety of impressions; and not behind the sheltered wall.

GRAHAM SUTHERLAND

ADVANCE IN EDUCATION

SIR,—In the article called "Advance in Education" in your issue of January 4th, Mr. Mackay-Mure uses a phrase with regard to County Colleges which, without further explanation, is rather misleading and indeed there is a good deal of popular misconception on the subject of the date at which County Colleges will be actually working.

It is often stated that this will be April, 1950, but the correct answer is that we do not yet know, but the chances are that it will be later.

The procedure set out by the Act is as follows:—On April 1st of this year, L. E. A.s become responsible for establishing and maintaining County Colleges. On that date we expect a Circular from the Ministry directing us to prepare a plan for County Colleges and to submit it within a time which will be set out in the Circular. According to the Act, this direction from the Minister could have been given at any time after April 1st, 1944, but she wisely decided to allow L.E.A.s to prepare their Development Plans for Primary and Secondary Education first.

After the plans for County Colleges have been submitted to the Minister and discussed with the L.E.A.s, she will make an Order in Council which will set a date by which the colleges are to be set up. She will later set another date, as soon as practicable after the last date, on which compulsory attendance is to begin.

It is therefore not possible to say yet when this will be. Those of us who are hoping that County Colleges will not have to start in old, discarded buildings, but in buildings "planned to suit the real needs of their occupants" as stated in the Ministry's official pamphlet on the subject, find it difficult to believe that these can be provided by 1950, in view of the urgent demands under the Development Plans for Primary and Secondary Education and the existing shortage of building materials and labour. Even if the Minister were to decide that County Colleges must start in old school buildings which will become redundant under the Development Plans for Primary and Secondary Education, these could hardly be released and reconstructed in three years' time unless a radical change takes place immediately in the building situation.

SHENA SIMON

APOLOGY

to Lieut. Colonel D. C. Macdonald, M.C., R.A.M.C.

In our issue of September 14th, 1946, we published an extract from a letter written by an Italian woman to an English friend relating to the English and American personnel of Unrra in Sicily. It contained references to the English Medical Officer which were gravely defamatory and which for that reason we do not repeat. Shortly after the publication of the letter in these columns we learned that the allegations made in the letter were completely without foundation and when we had ascertained the name and address of the Regional Medical Officer of Unrra in Sicily, Lieutenant Colonel D. C. Macdonald (which were not mentioned in the letter) the Editor wrote him a personal letter of apology. Meanwhile Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald had instructed his Solicitors to issue a Writ for Libel. We have agreed to pay Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald a substantial sum for damages and to indemnify him in respect of his legal costs and we desire publicly to express our very sincere regret to the distinguished officer for the wrong which we have unintentionally done him.

★ ★
NBL
NATIONAL BOOK LEAGUE
Services to Members:
LECTURES BY AUTHORS
BOOK EXHIBITIONS
INFORMATION BUREAU
MONTHLY NEWS SHEET
SELECTED BOOK LISTS
REFERENCE LIBRARY
GUIDANCE FOR READERS
Annual Subscription 10/6
Full details from the Secretary
7 Albemarle Street W.1

HEFFER
HEFFER'S
of Cambridge
for
BOOKS
on all subjects
New and Secondhand
English and Foreign
Write for Catalogue 613 listing 500 Book Bargains
Have you any books to sell? Good prices are always given for fine, rare and scholarly books on all subjects
W. HEFFER AND SONS LIMITED
Petty Cury, Cambridge

I'm never without books—
say subscribers to
THE TIMES BOOK CLUB
The only major Library giving the free overlap
•
Write for details:
42, Wigmore Street,
London, W.1.

BOOKS
Large stock of recent literature and text books in all branches of Medicine, Science and Technology.
FOREIGN DEPT.
Select stock. Books obtained from U.S.A. and the Continent (except Germany, Roumania and Albania).
SECOND-HAND DEPT.
Large stock of recent editions at 140, Gower St., London, W.C.1.
LENDING LIBRARY
Medical, Scientific and Technical Books.
Annual Subscription from
ONE GUINEA
Prospectus free on application
H. K. LEWIS & Co. Ltd.
London: 136, GOWER ST., W.C.1
Telephone: EUSton 4282 (5 lines)

BOOKS IN GENERAL

"A curious phenomenon of the 1938 Christmas was the substitution of the Lone Ranger for Santa Claus. This was observable particularly in the toy department of stores in New York, Brooklyn and Chicago. . . ." This is not the only example given in Miss Thorp's racy and informative book* of the way in which the movies are substituting a new mythology for the traditional folklore, derived from fairy stories, Old Testament characters and Mother Goose. Children cannot grow up without gods and goddesses, heroes, giants, witches and good fairies. To-day in the United States and to a less extent in Britain, and, indeed, wherever there is enough money to attract Hollywood, Jack and the Giant, David and Goliath and all the other figures who have made the imaginative background of children's lore, are giving way to Donald Duck and Popeye, the Big Bad Wolf and the Brave Little Pig. Jean Harlow and a long list of glamorous stars take the place of Goldilocks and the Sleeping Beauty; Tyrone Power and Ronald Colman are more than human heroes to the boyish mind, and every day in cartoons and film stories children are being shown, as they used to be in picture books, how against impossible odds "the pioneer virtues—courage, endurance, persistence, industry and quick wit" always come out on top. "Teachers' College has given academic sanction to this new and exemplary folklore by endorsing a Mickey Mouse primer."

Life, says a girl, quoted in Mr. Mayer's complementary volume,† "would be empty without the pictures." Just so. The passing of old tradition leaves a great emptiness, especially in the United States, where a score of races, jostling but not mingled in the melting-pot, have as a common philosophy a sterile and disappointing faith that the American way of life means the individual's chance to improve his own standard of living. The movies go some way to fill the gap. Miss Thorp writes:—

> The man in Cedar Creek, Maine, and the man in Cedar Creek, Oregon, see the same movie in the same week. When they meet, at the convention in Chicago, they talk together easily because they speak the same language, the language of the Marx Brothers and Charlie McCarthy, of Mickey Mouse and Pop-eye and Carole Lombard. They understand each other's allusions and take each other's references as easily as the medieval travellers speaking Low Latin on the Elbe or the Rhine. . . . Perhaps this dominance of the motion picture is a cause for regret. The comparative beauty of the King James version, the poems of Ovid, and the scenarios of Frances Marion as cultural food for the race may be debatable, but there can be no question of the richness, and pervasiveness of the common knowledge and there is no reason why its quality should not improve with age.

Miss Thorp and Mr. Mayer give ample proof of the immediate effect of the movies on human behaviour. The film is the one universal nexus of our age. Eighty-five million Americans go to the movies every week, and 50 per cent. of the British people, men, women and children, see the pictures once or twice a week. Hollywood dominates the whole American continent and penetrates into Europe and Asia and into backward areas where the film can be understood by those who cannot read or write. Basing her researches on American records, Miss Thorp shows how the housewife and the typist find in the film the fulfilment of their dreams of luxury and romance; fashions of clothes and hair-dressing, standards of kissing and love-making are based on direct imitation of Hollywood patterns.

Mr. Mayer's research was conducted in England partly under the auspices of Mr. Rank. He gives an amusing account of the Rank Children's Cinema Clubs and roundly states that they should be abolished. He omits to say how much the children enjoy them. He is concerned with the psychological effect of the film habit on children, and he has full documentary evidence to present from questionnaires, prize essays, interviews and personal observation and conversation. He allows, I think, too little for the healthy resilience of children. But there is only too much evidence that many children are terrified and haunted, sleeping and waking, by film horrors which they pretend to enjoy; that the visual education of the film produces behaviour patterns that are in some cases more potent than home or school teaching, and that, in particular, the Hollywood glamour of sex gravely distorts any natural approach in the relations of adolescent boys and girls. Mr. Mayer makes a strong point when he shows that young children do not comprehend the whole plot of a film, but leave the cinema deeply impressed with some single incident, which, appropriate in its setting as understood by an adult, may condition the whole future of the secret life of childish imagination. Mr. Mayer is able to show that our present division of "A" and "U" films is ineffective, and that we cannot ignore the probable effects of bringing up a generation of children on a dream world of gangsterism, sadism, fantastic luxury and perpetual sex titillation. But we know little about child psychology, and I think Mr. Mayer too easily assumes that we can say positively what is "good for children".

He is surely on answerable ground in urging that the State, which has responsibility for children's education, cannot, in logic or commonsense, leave them to be exploited commercially in the cinema. But he goes farther than this. Drawing widely on the study of psychologists, sociologists and historians, he argues that our whole society is now becoming closely parallel with that of the Roman Empire, when the gladiatorial spectacle took the place of the living drama. Mr. Mayer is at his best when he urges that drama, which has grown out of religion and ritual, has its genuine roots in the "participation" of the audience; that the disintegration and decadence of society is nowhere so clearly shown as in the growth of entertainment which becomes ever more sensational and sadistic, as the audience becomes ever more passive, ever more conditioned to a life of bread and circuses. Mr. Mayer is certainly right in urging that hope lies in reversing the tendency away from the "atomised" mass audience to the encouragement of the small community in which men and women know, understand, participate and create. He also believes that "a State censorship of films would ensure a high standard of quality—social and artistic," and that in the long run "nationalisation is unavoidable." As an immediate and practical measure he urges the Government "to form a State Distributing Corporation which might import (and export) those films which the dictatorial heads of the big distributing agencies either do not like or which they think not profitable."

Before growing indignant at such suggestions, it is wise to reflect that the tendency to monopoly in the British film industry has already gone much farther than in the case of the Press; it is as if most of the bookstalls and the newsprint were also owned by the Press Barons. Secondly, note that there is already censorship of a rule-of-thumb kind both in Britain and America. One of Miss Thorp's most interesting chapters deals with the activities of the Hays Committee and the influence of the Catholic Church on films in the United States.

The voices that really decide what films the public shall see is that of the renter and his chosen group of advisers. They would tell you that the test is "what the public wants." But both Mr. Mayer and Miss Thorp make it abundantly clear that the public is not, in fact, given any choice. It has not even the degree of choice that it has in its daily paper. Hollywood knows that sex and crime and glamour and cruelty and romance will sell pictures, and Hollywood, aiming always at the biggest profits, is only reluctantly and occasionally persuaded to cater for the regional and specialised audiences, each of which, taken separately, respond eagerly to films that satisfy their own interests and tastes. There is abundant evidence of this. The obstacle to developing a creative film industry is the capitalist's desire to make money by appealing at the same time to everyone. As the world market grows, this means cutting out everything that will not be popular in Japan and Patagonia. We are all much alike between our knees and our navels; therefore, there is more profit in the appeal to universal appetites than to the artistic, social or intellectual interests of smaller groups.

This, the key to all understanding of our cultural life to-day, is well illustrated by the story of the "documentary" or "factual film," which is the subject of the second of the Dartington Hall inquiries into the Visual Arts.* It traces with authority, and in detail, the development of "Britain's outstanding contribution to the film," from the pioneer work of John Grierson at the Empire Marketing Board and G.P.O. Film Unit through its period of wartime prosperity, when sponsors were many, down to the present day when Paul Rotha and his friends again fight against fearful odds. It discusses its value in schools, and shows that, during the war, a very large and enthusiastic public welcomed the beauty and reality of films that are seldom considered good business by the magnates of the film industry. In fact, the documentary has mainly flourished in what is known as "non-theatrical" production, in school and village halls, in factory canteens and to special audiences. The report wisely reports that "the Government should continue to sponsor production and distribution and maintain a suitable agency for the purpose." The Central Office of Information, the Ministry of Education, a reconstituted British Film Institute and Unesco are all called upon to give their aid.

We have to face the fact that we live in an age when, whatever our theory, private or public monopolies do, in fact, positively dictate moral standards and patterns of behaviour. A monopoly, based on profit, is certainly a very bad form of censorship and dictation. But we rightly fear the State's crude thumb. Coal and electricity can be nationalised and run by officials. In the Arts the State's function is to create opportunity, not to administer. Mr. Mayer points out, on more than one occasion, that the Soviet Union has logically taken over film creation as an integral part of education, but he does not add, what appears to be the case, that the Arts, which flourished in the early days of revolutionary enthusiasm, have withered in the charge of conscientious officials. Fine conduct is not the product of cautionary tales, but of the elevation of the heart that springs from participation in the artist's perception, and a community spirit is fostered, not by preaching its value, but by the enjoyment of common experience. *Figaro* is not a particularly moral opera, but Mozart has done more for morality than the author of *Sandford and Merton*. So have Eisenstein and René Clair. But the great musician, producer and scriptwriter, does not appear or function to order; he may be killed by bureaucratic interference just as much as by having no studios to work in and no theatres in which to show his creative experiments. Therefore, the State's function is to offer him opportunity and to leave him freedom to make what he can of it. The State can break the monopoly; it can provide artists and producers of integrity and capacity with studios and theatres; it can encourage the greatest variety of productions in the largest feasible number of media and localities. Without some State intervention a generation may grow up that really believes that Tyrone Power and Hedy Lamarr are the incarnation of heroism and romance, and that yearns, as the owner of a modern colosseum is reputed to have done, for a show with "a hundred people killed in a new and diverting way."

KINGSLEY MARTIN

---

* *America at the Movies.* By Margaret Thorp. (*Faber*, 12s. 6d.)

† *Sociology of Film.* By J. P. Mayer. (*Faber*, 15s.)

* *The Factual Film.* A survey sponsored by the Dartington Hall Trustees. Published on behalf of the Arts Inquiry by P. E. P. (*Oxford University Press*, 12s. 6d.)

THE BABY AND THE BATH-WATER

German Universities through English Eyes. By S. D. STIRK. *Gollancz.* 1s. 6d.

The German Question. By WILHELM RÖPKE. *Allen & Unwin.* 10s. 6d.

The Origins of Modern Germany. By G. BARRACLOUGH. *Blackwell.* 21s.

The Rebirth of the German Church. By STEWART HERMAN. *Student Christian Movement Press.* 10s. 6d.

The Church and Humanity (1939-1946). By G. K. A. BELL, Bishop of Chichester. *Longmans.* 8s. 6d.

The mistake of throwing out the German baby with the Nazi bath-water is, in one way or another, the theme of all these books. Dr. Stirk, in the shortest and tidiest of them, uses the phrase. His concern is with the German universities. He traces from 1871 onwards the two threads running through the history of the German universities: the thread of Prussianism and Nazism, which Treitschke and Reichsleiter Dr. Walter Schulze represented to the world—and the thread of *Wissenschaft*, of the humanities, of learning, as practised and defended by Mommsen and Max Weber and Troeltsch. Learning was overpowered by the Myth, just as in other branches of German life reason and compassion were driven under; it was overpowered the more easily, no doubt, because the maggot was at work within *Wissenschaft* itself. But the civilised spirit was there, it was never without its defenders and practitioners; among the last to go under were the Munich students executed in February, 1943. In modern times there has always been a struggle going on in German university life, because the civilised spirit has never quite abandoned its resistance to the authoritarian cult. If we refuse to see and use the civilised forces, Stirk argues—if, in fact, we throw out the baby with the bath-water—so much the worse for us. Dr. Stirk puts his case lucidly, with a good deal of insight, and with surprising completeness in a small space.

In its other facets the German problem presents the same logic to our eyes with oppressive clarity. It is a classical example—which, one can imagine, schoolmasters will use to interest bright boys in the study of history—of the necessity of using historical study to separate a practical problem into its elements. The necessity, and the difficulty: for we take prejudice with us. It is so fatally easy to pick the answer you want; you have only to pick arbitrarily the point in time at which your inquiry will stop. There are a genuine and an illusionist historical approach: I feel that Professor Barraclough and Professor Röpke are good examples of the one and the other. Take Röpke first: *The German Question*, which some readers will know in its Swiss or French editions, but which now appears for the first time in English translation, is illuminating in many details but, as a whole, confuses things since (it seems to me) he goes about it in the wrong way. It is not that he fails to realise the importance of what he calls "the pathology of German history." In its bearings on the German national character he analyses German history with some penetration. But the method is disorderly, and the verdict only distantly related to the evidence. To the problem of German political maladjustment Röpke seems to apply no facts previous to Bismarck. The cunning with which Bismarck transformed Germany into Greater Prussia; the curious fact that the Nordic Man of Iron, the man of the steely eyes, the barking voice, and the frozen face has appeared, as a German ideal, only within the last hundred years; the special character of the Prussian ruling class, deriving from the long "colonial" history of modern Germany—these observations of Röpke's are true enough as far as they go. But come to the solution. Things went wrong when Bismarck and his successors centralised Germany; decentralise it therefore (says Röpke), and they will come right again. So he wants a German Confederation (or rather, for the time being, a West German Confederation; don't go near the Iron Curtain) in which he will rely on those sturdily independent characters the Bavarians, the Hanoverians, the Rhinelanders and so on to re-assert their cosy past.

> Germany must regain her character of a "nation of nations," and return to the good traditions from which, three generations ago, she departed to her undoing.

Gaudeamus igitur. Not to be unfair, Professor Röpke postulates also a moral revolution and a social and economic revolution. But let us look at his social and economic revolution. He wants to undo not only the agrarian feudalism east of the Elbe (which the Russians have already undone rather thoroughly) and the industrial feudalism of Western Germany (which the British and Americans are finding a tougher nut to crack) but *all* collectivising tendencies. Indeed, it would seem, any form of large economic organisation, however controlled, must go. All this, mark you, is a lesson drawn from German history. So may a physician, finding his patient about to die of pleurisy, recommend him to get back to simple pneumonia.

Where, then, did the sickness of the German political body begin? Professor Barraclough, being a mediævalist, takes us back to the Salian and Carolingian kingdoms in the search for an answer. *The Origins of Modern Germany* is a good, nearly an excellent, book. It could be simpler and shorter without being less informative. I feel, too, that Barraclough confines himself too strictly to a political treatment of history and to a national view of politics. His is, however, a genuinely historical method. The French memory of German aggression (Barraclough can, and will, be criticised as being anti-French in his judgments) goes back to 1870. But go back further: not only the Nazi movement, but the whole Prussian perversion, can then be seen as incidents in a long story in which the jackboot has not always been on the same foot. The Nazi conspiracy against the world, the Prussian conquest of Germany which made it possible: these were the end-products of a retarded and distorted constitutional development which set Germany apart from the great States of Western Europe.

Professor Barraclough has an intelligible inquiry to pursue; he pursues it intelligently, patiently, until it leads him eventually to his conclusion. In the eleventh century, in the failure of Henry IV (not so much against Pope Gregory VII as against his own aristocracy) to establish the Salian monarchy as a permanent system of government, he finds the outlines emerging of the internal political problem of later days—

> the fantastic map of German particularism and of the unlimited sovereignty of the princes, which were the curses of German history from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries.

He blames the Italian preoccupations and the Imperial policy of the Hohenstaufen Emperor Frederick II (being, as Barraclough sees it, an Imperial and not a German policy) for the collapse of central government in the mid-thirteenth century which was never fully repaired until 1871. These are two of the decisive points in the story. Somehow the chance of recovery never came, or was never taken. The process bears no marks of inevitability. If the leadership of Germany had not fallen to the Habsburgs with their endless extra-German entanglements; if the Habsburgs had handled the Reformation differently and made

Is it going to be cold tonight?

No good shivering. Just don't let yourself get tired and off-colour—that's when the cold gets a hold on you. Hot Bovril is what you need. It comforts, cheers and helps you to weather the weather. It's the beef in Bovril that does it, the concentrated goodness of beef which assists assimilation and helps you to build up resistance to ills and chills. Have a cup of Bovril to warm you up when you come in—or take one to fortify you before starting out.

In bottles—1 oz. 10d · 2 oz. 1/6d
4 oz. 2/9d · 8 oz. 4/10d · 16 oz. 8/-

BOVRIL

puts beef into you

TOO TERRIBLE TO PRINT

China to-day... as many people as the total population of Great Britain homeless. Ten millions suffering starvation in one province alone. Two million orphan children.

And now, epidemics of plague and cholera are "assuming dangerous proportions," as recently quoted by the official Chinese Ministry of Information bulletin. What all this means in human suffering is too terrible to print.

This is an S.O.S.

All the help we can give to China is desperately needed. Send your donation to-day to

BRITISH UNITED AID TO CHINA

(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1940)

Dept. 25a, 25 Charles Street, London, W.1
(Phone: Grosvenor 2253/5)

Rapid writing for busy people

Here is a new fast-writing system of masterly simplicity—Dutton Double-Speed Longhand. In twenty hours' actual study you can master it and be taking down the gist of speeches, letters, lectures at almost shorthand speed. D.S.L. is a boon for busy executives and professional people. Only the familiar letters of the alphabet are used—you can write D.S.L. on a typewriter! Your writing speed goes up from the first hour's study. It's as fascinating as cross-words. *And*—D.S.L. opens up exciting possibilities as a medium of international communication.

Send 3d. for Lesson One and details—without any obligation.

DUTTON DOUBLE-SPEED LONGHAND

Dept. N.S. 51,
92/3 Gt. Russell Street, London, W.C.1.

"Important job today; mustn't be heavy with catarrh . .

Don't know where I'd be without a MILTON spray!"

it a unifying instead of a disrupting force; if Lutheranism had not fallen back on the princes as its refuge—then, perhaps, the Thirty Years' War might not have imposed on Germany a system designed carefully, with mainly French backing, to keep her divided. One does not know. But the cataclysmic social effects of the Thirty Years' War are plain, and it needs no elaborate chain of argument to connect them with the morbid political growths of modern times.

Disentangling the historical German problem from the ephemeral Nazi movement, Barraclough proposes that the German problem be attacked by removing the factors which have retarded German political development in the past. Destruction, fragmentation, pastoralisation, have all been tried before, in one way or another; he would treat German aspirations to unity and democracy as legitimate, and would try to complete instead of thwarting them. About Bismarck's unification of Germany—a unification with such a twist to it that it became a major historical disaster—he has a good deal that is worth while to say. He blames the Bismarckian twist, not the fact of unification, for what followed. He, too, shows how the civilised forces persisted and struggled on in Germany; they are there if we will see them and encourage them. Barraclough's work is good enough to make me wish he had not carried his history up to 1946. With much of what he says on the last thirty years I would agree; all the same a historical analysis is one thing, a current affairs commentary quite another. Whether the Germans were pleased or sorry when Hitler declared war is still a question of current affairs. Professor Barraclough believes they were sorry; so do I; but his authority on that question is not of the same order as his authority on the Investiture Contest or the Golden Bull. Still, of all recent works on Germany, Barraclough's covers the least-explored ground, covers it the most patiently, and seems the most likely to have a permanent value.

To get back to the baby and the bath-water: what sort of resistance did German organised religion put up to the Nazi ideas? I remember that when S.H.A.E.F. Civil Affairs officers started work in occupied German territory, they were told in general that Catholic priests might prove reliable as non-Nazis, but that Lutheran pastors were likely to have been compromised. Whether this was correct guidance or not, its effects on the post-war government of Western and Southern Germany have not been entirely fortunate. It is true, of course, that Lutherans were exposed (as were other Germans) to the bitter and perplexing struggle between national loyalty and faith, reason, or whatever attitude it was that made the Nazi programme hard for some people to swallow. In *The Rebirth of the German Church* Dr. Herman comments that

> in fact, no type of Christianity in Germany remained free from Nazism or guaranteed immunity from it . . . there were far too many people, including pastors and priests, in twentieth-century Germany whose Christianity was no match for Hitler's new religion of the State.

It is also true that in the Protestant States of the Reich the State Church was especially vulnerable to Nazi pressure and cajolery, and it lacked the safeguard of a great world organisation behind it, which gave many Catholic priests a shield for their integrity. Under pressure and cajolery the Evangelical Church of Germany found itself, in effect, split into three sections. The German Christian section—Hitler's Fifth Column inside the church, as Niemöller called it—was a queer synthetic movement, reminding one of nothing so much as of some flash revivalist affair in the American West, but having the big stick unmistakably behind it. Against it arose the Confessing Church as a resistance movement to the penetration of the Nordic cult. The remaining section was the "moderates," controlling the so-called "intact churches" and keeping a rather obstinate footing elsewhere; from an initial pusillanimous attempt at appeasement or even co-operation, it was driven eventually into passive resistance and rather guarded statements of Christian principle. The Confessing Churchmen, by far the most dynamic of the three sections, kept the struggle going to the end, and Dr. Herman's account is full enough and authentic enough to show that it was a real struggle. Herman was minister in charge of the American Lutheran church in Berlin from 1936 to 1942. Since the war he has been back in Germany for the World Council of Churches. His opportunities for following what happened have been relatively good. But when he comes to present-day issues one's faith in his judgment is shaken by his reference—perfunctory and unquestioningly benevolent—to the Christian Democratic Union, which is getting a good deal of Lutheran Church support. Has he really no doubts about this queer Catholic-Protestant alliance? Can he really have satisfied himself that the groups controlling it are entirely democratic and "social," whatever that means? Ecclesiastical adventures in politics should be looked at more closely.

To the Bishop of Chichester Germany has always been "the first country in Europe to be occupied by the Nazis." He was an early, an unfashionably early, anti-Nazi; he has persisted in distinguishing between Nazism and Germany, in asserting the reality of anti-Nazi and anti-war feeling among the German people, in demanding a peace settlement and an occupation policy which will take that distinction and those feelings into account. His collected speeches and writings, *The Church and Humanity (1939-1946)* contain some remarkable pieces of prescience: as, for instance, his warning against area bombing—of the miscalculated effect of "obliteration bombing" on the Germans, its over-estimated value as a means of shortening the war, and its disastrous effectiveness in perpetuating the post-war crisis. One should mention also his account of the background of the plot of July 20, 1944, against Hitler. When visiting Sweden in May, 1942, Dr. Bell was twice approached (by two German Evangelical pastors working separately) for British co-operation in the plot. The names given to him then were names which appeared among the list of conspirators two years later: Beck, Goerdeler and Trott zu Solz among them. Dr. Bell passed on the information to Anthony Eden. Eventually the British Government (which had received other feelers through other neutral countries) decided that nothing could be done. Dr. Bell is definite about two important points. First, the plot was prepared at the latest in the winter of 1941-2, when the Germans held nearly all Europe, including vast tracts of Soviet territory. Second, it was more than a militarist conspiracy, or as Churchill put it when the news came out, simply a case of "the highest personalities in the German Reich murdering one another." The conspirators needed, and used, Army people because no forcible revolt could possibly succeed without the Army. But who were the conspirators? One cannot do better than quote Dr. Bell's estimate of "the two strands in the opposition":

> The first strand was composed of very different kinds of people, with different motives, linked by a common resolve to eliminate Hitler . . . The second strand is composed of those who were quite uncompromising in their repudiation of all that Hitler and the Nazis generally stood for, and opposed the régime from a definite Christian or liberal or democratic angle. They can rightly be called the upholders of the European tradition in Germany.

JOHN MIDGLEY

★

EVERY form of enterprise depends upon the services given by banking and insurance. The investor in

BANK-INSURANCE UNITS

is a part owner of a group of companies supplying *essential* services and managed with incomparable skill. These Units provide an investment, *free from personal liability in respect of partly-paid* shares, spread over the shares of 50 British banks and insurance companies. Dividends on these Units have increased during recent years and this upward trend should continue.

Bank-Insurance Units may be freely bought and sold (and information obtained) through any Stockholder or Bank.

Trustees: Midland Bank Executor & Trustee Co. Ltd.
Mgrs.: Bank Insurance Trust Corp. Ltd., 30 Cornhill, E.C.3.

MIDLAND BANK
LIMITED

Chairman:
The Most Hon. THE MARQUESS OF LINLITHGOW, K.G., K.T.

Vice-Chairman, Chief of Executive:
Sir CLARENCE SADD, C.B.E., J.P., D.L.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
December 31, 1946

LIABILITIES	£
Capital paid up	15,158,621
Reserve Fund	15,158,621
Current, Deposit and other Accounts	1,242,636,506
Acceptances and Confirmed Credits	32,215,999
Engagements	20,583,615
ASSETS	
Coin, Notes and Balances with Bank of England	109,927,428
Balances with, and Cheques on other Banks	48,492,984
Money at Call and Short Notice	73,340,883
Bills Discounted (Treasury Bills £160,667,650)	166,693,019
Treasury Deposit Receipts	354,000,000
Investments	282,625,813
Advances and other Accounts	219,619,785
Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances, etc.	52,799,614
Bank Premises	8,165,762
Shares in	
Yorkshire Penny Bank Ltd.	937,500
Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation Ltd.	276,100
Affiliated Companies	8,874,474

HEAD OFFICE: POULTRY, LONDON, E.C. 2

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE—

between a butterfly and a moth?

You find the answer in an encyclopaedia.

But what is the difference between Britain's present proposals to India and the 1942 plan?

YOU FIND THE ANSWER IN KEESING'S.

In its current volume (No. VI) you can put your finger at a moment's notice on up-to-date details of the present Government's aims for India, while KEESING'S Volume No. IV contains the full account of Sir Stafford Cripps' mission in 1942. Turn further back through the years, and you will find accurate records of the White Paper of 1934 on the Indian Constitutional Reform right down to the Round Table Conferences of 1931 and 1932 under Mr. MacDonald.

This is only one example of how KEESING'S objective, concise, up-to-date documentation of events and facts (*fully indexed*) links the present with the past and how, as a subscriber, you can compile your own work of reference on the history of our day by the addition of a fresh bulletin every week. You may ask below for further examples.

Keesing's Publications Limited,
65, Bristol Road, Keynsham, Bristol

Please supply free: details of KEESING'S.

Name.....

Address..... N.St.4.

ODD, GROTESQUE, WILD

The English Sense of Humour. By HAROLD NICOLSON. *Dropmore Press.* £2 2s.

It is a searching intellectual exercise to write a short essay of aesthetic definition on a general theme on which every reader will hold pronounced opinions. Mr. Nicolson could easily have written round his subject by entertaining us with a hundred diverting examples of English humour and drawing a brief conclusion. He has preferred, however, the harder course of inductive reasoning. His argument takes the shape of an inverted pyramid in which he analyses the nature of laughter and humour and whittles away irony, satire, burlesque and wit in order to expose the components of the English sense of humour. These are revealed to be kindliness, a love of compromise and conciliation and a special sensitivity to failings such as vanity or pomposity. But the English sense of humour is distinguished in particular by three qualities: childishness, self-protection and economy of mental effort. We are childish in our delight in a simple play on words and our jokes about children; when dreading ridicule or faced with the horrible or with social and intellectual superiority, we protect ourselves by making a joke about our fears; and since we are by nature mentally indolent, we prefer to laugh at matters which we will not take the trouble to understand. These characteristics are exemplified in our love of jokes which are easily recognisable as nonsense for nonsense's sake and a peculiar delight in laughing at logic and erudition. The essay closes with examples taken from *Punch*, Edward Lear and *Itma*.

The analysis is penetrating and true and a host of examples spring to the mind in support of the characteristics enumerated. How true it is that repetition is the essence of the success of our comedians! From *Eastwood Ho!* to *Itma*, from Harry Tate to Nervo and Knox, the writers of comic plays and scripts earn their heartiest applause by the introduction of a not intrinsically funny slogan or action which becomes funnier by repetition. In England similarly one finds audiences who tolerate decade after decade the same musical comedy stars and who regretfully bid them farewell when their toneless voices and creaking limbs can no longer hold out against senility. And yet . . . are *Punch* and *Itma* really the epitomes of our sense of humour? Can we not feel Mr. Nicolson gently extending our leg? There he is at our elbow with urbane words of comfort. It is true, he says, that our national humour is not the index of a very active intellect; nor indeed is it very funny; on a thermometer of the laughable it would fall somewhere between 20—50 deg. Centigrade. But it is the product of an agreeable temperament and a most useful social cement between the classes of society.

Now, this is not the whole answer, and the faults of the analysis are those of omission. Mr. Nicolson shows how Taine, Bergson and other foreigners have misapprehended the English sense of humour and the essay shows foreigners what in fact it is. But it shows them the Lowest Common Multiple of our humour and omits the Highest Common Factor. In its highest form our humour is full of Compassion; in the characters of Justice Shallow, Mrs. Poyser, Shakespeare's and Hardy's rustics, and of course, those of Dickens. And when one thinks of Dickens a more serious omission springs to mind. When anatomising the nature of laughter Mr. Nicolson dwelt on the significance of the smile and the chuckle, but he omitted all mention of the *giggle*. Now, the giggle is the product, though not the exclusive product, of a type of humour which is peculiarly English and depends on the exuberant play of fancy. It is to be found frequently in the descriptions of Dickens and in his characters. "She's the only sylph I ever saw, who could stand upon one leg, and play the tambourine on her other knee, like a sylph." It breaks out in Wilde; it can be found in *The Relapse;* "I rise, Madam, about ten o'clock," says Lord Foppington, "I don't rise sooner, because 'tis the warst passible thing in the Warld for the Complection; nat that I pretend to be a Beau; but a Man must endeavour to look wholesome lest he makes so nauseous a figure in the Side-Bax that the Ladies shol'd be compell'd to turn their eyes upon the Play." It is the special delight in the essays of Lytton Strachey and Virginia Woolf: those on the Muggletonians Froude, Bentley and Middlebrow. It relies on extravagance, folly and a refined sense of the ludicrous and the ridiculous. It is as Swift said, odd, grotesque and wild—it takes wing, swerving, flickering and hovering above the house-tops, shaking off wit and irony till it rises to the skies to be the special pride of our literature.

It will be evident that this is the very book to take for a week-end which has been decided to dedicate to animated discussion. The price of the book, which is the first of a series of limited editions issued by the Dropmore Press for bibliophiles, will, however, deter the general reader. The printing is remarkably even, the paging good though the spacing is sometimes erratic; it is also odd to find Caslon headings over Benbow type. The cloth binding is spoilt by some pretentious tooling. The paper is exquisite though the deckle-edges make the pages more difficult to turn—an attempt, perhaps, to preserve an Aristotelian balance, since Mr. Nicolson is the most readable of living English essayists.

NOEL ANNAN

STORIES

Celtic Story. Edited by Alec Vaughan. *Pendulum Publications.* 6s.

Selected Stories. By FRANK O'CONNOR. *Hour-Glass Library.* 2s. 6d.

Selected Stories. By MALACHI WHITAKER. *Hour-Glass Library.* 2s. 6d.

It is almost depressing to think that to-day, when leisure is diminished, the most we can digest—and that awkwardly between two activities—is the short story. We are offered new collections of these pieces every week; we have new monthly and quarterlies and little reviews: they are the sharp, sweet pills one swallows in buses and over abortive cups of tea. Despite the boom in short stories, they have shown little development. Instead, we are given half a dozen different pieces—sketches, anecdotes, diaries, descriptions— which all masquerade under the name of "stories." But are they?

Celtic Story, for instance, seems to contain a great deal which, on examination, turns out to be very slender sketches. *Moon is Only Moon*, by Elizabeth Myers, is about the shortest and slenderest of these pieces; and it is as well polished and varnished and brightly coloured as a Royal Academy still-life; but, apart from its decorative value, one wonders what it sets out to achieve. Likewise *The Return*, by Betty Denholm: it seems hardly a story so much as a private letter to a friend. If by "story" we mean a piece that moves, that has dramatic value, and the smooth interaction of characters drawing to a climax, then it is not these, but Rhys Davies' *Canute* which earns the title. He is a master of the medium, a writer who sees life in miniature and has the power to give it form and perspective with a sense of satire that, at moments, almost verges on caricature. A crowd of wheezing, rattle swinging, beer-swilling provincial enthusiasts of football invade London; at the end of the match they are alarmed to find one of their number fast asleep

St. Sampson's Church, Newgate, York

CENTURIES OLD ABBEYS, churches, mansions, priceless heirlooms of the craftsmen of the past—these are the historic values rich in culture and art which are the background of the Yorkshire of today with its thousands of craftsmen skilled in so many trades.
This tradition persists throughout Yorkshire, among its people, in its cities, towns and industries, and is the solid foundation upon which "The Yorkshire Post" is established. Owned, edited and published in Yorkshire, "The Yorkshire Post" is indeed part of Yorkshire life, yet has a breadth of outlook known and respected throughout the world.

The Yorkshire Post

The Newspaper of the North

YP49

In the special New Year Number . . .

FOOTBALL POOLS—*will the government be forced to intervene? by Viscount Castlereagh*

WHALING—*and the grave world shortage of fats—by David Gunston*

THE COAL INDUSTRY—*examined in the light of Notts coalfield results, by Col. C. G. Lancaster, M.P.*

EIGHT PAGES IN COLOUR—*pictures by Paul Klee, Mantegna, Henry Moore, Crivelli, Chirico, Turner, Da Sylva, Rouault, in full colour — with commentary by Julian Trevelyan.*

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS BOOKS : TRAVEL : LIFE

World Review

Edited by EDWARD HULTON
One & Sixpence Monthly

Under the patronage of Their Majesties The King and Queen

EDINBURGH
24 AUG—13 SEPT

International Festival of Music and Drama

in association with the Arts Council of Great Britain

Glyndebourne Opera (Verdi, Mozart); Old Vic Theatre Company; Compagnie Jouvet, Paris; Sadler's Wells Ballet; British and Foreign Orchestras incl. Vienna Philharmonic, Orchestre Colonne; Conductors, Bruno Walter, Paray, Barbirolli, Sargent, Szell, Susskind, Ian Whyte: Soloists and Chamber Music; Lotte Lehmann, Schnabel, Szigeti, Fournier, Primrose, Kathleen Ferrier, Peter Pears, Todd Duncan, etc.

Tickets available 3rd February. All information from Cook's, Dean & Dawson, American Express Company, or Festival Office, Music Hall, George Street, Edinburgh 2

YOUR MIND AND HOW TO USE IT

By W. J. Ennever in association with T. Sharpe Knowlson. 5/6
A complete course of self-instruction. Deals with all essential mental needs. It offers a plan by world-famous experts for developing a trained mind at a fraction of the usual cost.

MEMORY EFFICIENCY AND HOW TO OBTAIN IT
By J. Louis Orton. 5/6
This book tells how to acquire a photographic memory. In mastering its contents, doubt, indecision, and fear disappear. Inferiority complex is conquered by a confidence based upon the firm foundation of a well-trained mind.

HIGH AND LOW BLOOD PRESSURE
By Jas. C. Thomson. 5/6
The how and why of low and high blood pressure and the simple naturopathic home treatment for this prevalent condition is fully explained by this new book.

PREPARING FOR MOTHERHOOD
Training in Infancy and Childhood
By Evelyn Pantin, R.Sc.N. 5/6
Nothing is overlooked. Tables, diagrams and delightful photographs are features of this volume by an experienced maternity sister, which is to-day's best guide to motherhood and baby-care.

BETTER SIGHT WITHOUT GLASSES
(including test card). By H. Benjamin. 5/6
The Author cured himself of rapidly approaching blindness and has embodied his successful methods in his book for the benefit of all sufferers.

HOW TO OBTAIN HEALTHY HAIR
By J. C. Thomson. 1/6
Giving details of home treatment for Hair and Scalp disorder, including Baldness, Dandruff, Alopecia, Falling Hair, etc., etc.

Prices include postage. Obtainable through Bookseller or direct from:

THORSONS, *Publishers*, LTD.,
Dept. 169, 91, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.2

Complete Catalogue on request.

on the raised "shoe-shine" chair in a public lavatory, and cut off from them by an ever-rising stretch of water due to blocked drains. It is a satisfactory piece, rather like the French novel *Clochemerle*, with London given the far-off perspective and the lurid atmosphere of Babylon.

The important thing about this collection, apparently, is that all the authors are "Celtic" writers immersed in the traditional gloom of the Irish and Welsh atmosphere, though why this should be more important than the quality of the work is hard to understand. There are stories by Ethel Mannin (a frail but vivid sketch), John Atkins, Peter Carrol, and several others, but on the whole the collection is not satisfactory.

Selected Stories, by Frank O'Connor, on the other hand, are entirely satisfactory; they contain worlds within worlds; worlds of atmosphere, of character, and of the horror which lies under the everyday surface of things: they are clear-cut, strong pictures of Irish life in the tradition of *Dubliners*. In fact, Joyce in his early period, and Mr. O'Connor in his present mood, both strike the reader's sensibilities with the same kind of impact; and not merely because they are fellow countrymen. Given their entirely different and individual viewpoints, both Joyce and Mr. O'Connor have the same qualities—a penetrating sensitiveness, an eye for the important, evocative detail ("frozen into effigies of farewell"), the power to poise the reader in a nebulous mood, half sad, half nostalgic: the power, above all, in the latter's case, to make the world of Ireland during the Civil "troubles" more real on the printed page than it would have been to a less acute observer and traveller.

A good many modern stories have lost the qualities of humanity and warmth in favour of a twisted indifference, a self-conscious "toughness"; their characters never feel tenderness, kindness, or give way to moments of beauty: these imported horrors are sub-human, clay figures, in black and white. But Mr. O'Connor's people, who, after all, come from the same world of violence and sudden death, are all in the round; they are not jaded or over-sophisticated, but suffer and love like the simple human beings they are. . . . To us they are credible; because they feel pain and shed tears we, too, feel equally moved.

Jumbo's Wife is, in my opinion, the most perfect of all these stories. Jumbo is a poor sot—"a drunken elephant of a man"—who by himself would claim little sympathy; it is in relation to his wife's feelings—first a momentary but fatal betrayal, then, when the damage is done, of passionate love—that he reaches the significance of tragedy. His wife had lived with him a life of sordid hell; and, as often happens, it was not the wife beatings, the drunken fits, the squandering of his money that goaded her into the fury in which she betrayed his spying for the British to the rebels; but a tiny detail which, for her, had a significance more important than all her earlier suffering, that started the tragedy. It was the breaking of a small picture, which she loved, that ended in Jumbo's death:

> She was so caught up in her own bitter reflections that when she glanced round suddenly and saw the picture that had been the ostensible cause of Jumbo's fury awry, the glass smashed in, and the bright colours stained with tea, her lips fell, and she began to moan softly to herself. It was a beautiful piece—that was how she described it—a beautiful, massive piece of big, big castle, all towers, on a rock, and mountains and snow behind. Four shillings and sixpence it had cost her in the Coal Quay market. Jumbo would spend three times that on a drunk; ay, three times and five times that Jumbo would spend, and for all he had smashed every cup and plate and dish in the house on her poor little picture—because it was extravagance, he said.

There are eight other stories in this collection, which vary in mood and theme, but they are all memorable and well worth reading.

Malachi Whitaker is new to me. She has already written four volumes of short stories—*Frost in April, No Luggage, Five for Silver* and *Honeymoon*, and her sixteen stories in this collection cover a wide field.

There are stories about a plumber's assistant in love with a girl; about a young woman waiting anxiously for the man who got her into trouble; about a nervous reciter of Shakespeare, and many more. They all deal with the small details of provincial life—in Yorkshire one supposes, probably in Leeds or Ilkley—and they are entertaining. Miss Whitaker, however, has one or two bad habits, particularly in description. "Eyes stuck out like prawn's eyes" conveys an immediate image, but the "pip pip," "whoo, ah," and "hongs" are a little out of place.

ROBIN KING

IBSEN IN THE MAKING

Ibsen: The Intellectual Background. By BRIAN W. DOWNS. *Cambridge University Press.* 10s. 6d.

This is not a book for the casual reader; it is for the student, and the determined student at that—or at least the casual reader will be apt to think so. One need not blame Mr. Downs. He might, perhaps, have made it less resistant, but no culinary skill could have made it wholly digestible.

The object is to relate Ibsen to his background. Outside Scandinavia, he tends to be regarded as "a sudden, causeless phenomenon, born in a hyperborean desert with no traceable ancestry"; of course he was no such thing, and one might expect to be enthralled by a clearer view of him. But our ignorance is too well based. We have little or no idea of Ibsen's world; and just because we have no idea of it, the facts, when stated, are not much good to us. It is possible to do brief justice to the Danish tradition, and to the patriotic revolt and cultivation of the "Norse-Norse." But what are Wergeland and Welhaven, outside Scandinavia? Even Englishmen who know their legend and have some acquaintance with their works find it rather hard to see what all the fuss was about; in default even of that, is there any nourishment in hearing that Ibsen was of the tribe of Welhaven? Then the Danish poets who influenced him in youth—Oehlenschläger, Heiberg, Paludan-Müller—if one has not read and cannot read them, if they are only names, the elucidation of his debt must be rather dry. When we come to the historical background, there is much the same difficulty. Ibsen's "Scandinavian" ideal, and its crash in 1864 with the "betrayal" of Denmark, has an immediate human interest—an interest, too, which recent years have intensified. But the internal politics, the state of parties, the constitutional debates, with all the unknown figures crowding that stage, cannot be brought to life in passing, to illuminate something else. What we need here is a good social and political history of modern Norway; a little knowledge merely sticks in the throat.

So Mr. Downs's own learning, and scrupulous dogging of his subject from point to point, will be largely wasted on those who cannot follow it up. He would, I think, have done better to write a life of Ibsen. This is not as impertinent as it may sound; for Ibsen's life was so exclusively his work that it implies, not a change of theme, but only one of form. The biographical form would have run more smoothly, and could often have prevented a minor influence from looming up as a major obstacle.

And after all, whatever the approach, one is left with that unique figure, spinning out of its own entrails. Ibsen began with Catiline cursing

NATIONALISATION DE-BUNKED!

BRITAIN IN CHAINS

By JOHN DALGLEISH

As good as:
"We Planned the Second Front"
"I was an Eighth Army Soldier"

On Sale Now, 1/-

EVERYBODY'S BOOKS

THE LINGUIST
The MODERN
Modern Language Paper

9d. monthly from your newsagent. 10s. 6d. yearly from 'The Linguist,' 20, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

BANK CO-OPERATIVELY AND BENEFIT ACCORDINGLY

The helpful spirit of co-operation, which gives vitality to the successful trading enterprises of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, is the spirit which actuates the business of the

C.W.S. BANK

The results are remunerative terms, coupled with efficient service, plus thousands of appreciative customers.

The C.W.S. Bank meets the requirements of all—from the great organisation to the individual depositor.

Please write for details to: Head Office: 1, BALLOON STREET, MANCHESTER. Branches: 99, Leman Street, LONDON, E.1 (Sub-Branches, W.C.2 and S.W.1); West Blandford Street, NEWCASTLE; Broad Quay, BRISTOL; 8/9, Griffin Street, NEWPORT (Mon.); Claypath, DURHAM.

AGENCIES ALSO IN EVERY TOWN

HELP THEM REBUILD . . .

A Scottish War Medallist

by sending a contribution however small. £500,000 is needed now to build new life-boats and so make good the losses and delays of war.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION
LIFE-BOAT HOUSE, BOREHAM WOOD, HERTS.
The Earl of Harrowby, Hon. Treasurer
Lt.-Col. C. R. Satterthwaite, O.B.E., Secretary

ALL THESE TREASURES ARE YOUR INHERITANCE

English Literature is the world's best; its riches are at your disposal in the new Course written for the London School of Journalism by L. A. G. Strong, famous author and broadcaster. Whether as a means to serious study or as a guide and introduction to all that is best in English, this course is ideal. Other courses in Journalism, Story Writing, etc. Reduced fees. Free advice from Prospectus Office, L.S.J., 57, Gordon Square, W.C.1. Mus. 4574.

'Economy is one reason...'

That's one reason for my lifelong loyalty to this 'tobacco of curious cut'. Economy! I've never known such a leisurely and lasting smoke. Another reason, between ourselves, is that I strongly suspect 'Three Nuns' of being the very best.

Three Nuns

EMPIRE BLEND (*A blend of Empire & other choice tobaccos*) 2/7½ AN OUNCE

ORIGINAL 2/10½ AN OUNCE
'*The Vicar's Choice*'

Issued by STEPHEN MITCHELL & SON, *Branch of The Imperial Tobacco Co. (of Great Britain & Ireland), Limited, Glasgow.*

Rome, and ended with Professor Rubek cursing his life-work. In between, he made himself a great artist; he immersed himself in current thought; he read the newspapers from end to end. But the essential Ibsen, the burning core of a dark planet, was always there. As a work of art, *Catilina* may raise a smile; but the ideas are Ibsen full-blown. Already we have the almost rabid individualism, the detestation of a "compact majority." Already the hero—even the exceptional, inspired hero—promises to be a poor fish. Already he stands between two women; it may seem a far cry from the Roman's devoted wife and his Valkyrie or egger-on (appropriately called Furia) to Mrs. Elvsted and Hedda Gabler, but their functions as preserver and destroyer are just the same. Ibsen *might* have learnt the triangle theme from Scribe, in his Bergen days—but he had used it before. Scribe's example *might* have addicted him to the *maîtresse femme*—but did he need an example? Certainly it was the Danish critic Brandes who supplied a doctrine for his maturity: who bade him "submit problems to debate," and who insisted on his being "modern." But was he not on the point of turning realist, without Brandes? Perhaps a vital factor was the bad review of *Peer Gynt* which threw him into such hysterics of rage and panic. It was a foul assault on his reputation. It said his book was not poetry. But let his enemies beware! If he was not a poet, he had nothing to lose; he would set up as a photographer. He would not spare the child in its mother's womb—and so on, with the fury of his own Catiline, who, since he may not govern Rome, will at least express himself by wiping it out. These tremendous threats issued in nothing worse than *The League of Youth*. But Ibsen wrote no more "dramatic poems"; and thereafter he rejected plays in verse as unmodern.

The excitement is to trace, not Oehlenschläger or Kierkegaard, but Henrik Ibsen, through all his phases and his dramatic alibis. On this point Mr. Downs would agree. He stresses the continuity. He is not at all inclined to overrate the external influences; they are faithfully recorded, and then marked doubtful or unimportant. Perhaps the main thing he teaches us about Ibsen's background is how little we need to know.

K. JOHN

JOY OUT OF INDIA

Folk-Songs of Chattisgarh. Edited and Translated by VERRIER ELWIN. *Oxford University Press.* 25s.

In an age of specialisation Mr. Verrier Elwin is eminently rotund: anthropologist, scholar and poet, he presents in *Folk-Songs of Chattisgarh* a monument designed with balance, cemented with accuracy and decorated with gusto.

Chattisgarh, an area of central India, holds peoples and tribes of different levels of culture, but the wide embrace of Hinduism provides a unity. In general life is "hard, dusty and unrewarding." The only pleasures available are in the mere elements of human life and in the poetry and dancing that are made about them. The poetry is oral, generally sung, and diverse in origin: one poem will contain a jungly echo of a refrain that was old when Petronius used it in the *Satyricon*—the witty reciprocal motif *Go to sleep or I shall call Papa;* another will tell of a soldier returned from the Japanese war—he bids you "*Guda moraning.*" Chattisgarhi is a dialect of Hindi, so that the translations are from a tongue that is a cousin of our own. Those who have a few words of Hindi will see how near Mr. Elwin is able to go to the several originals he quotes. In the shortest poem, On Having Two Wives: *Tai rani, mai rani, Khon bharai pani? You are a queen, I am a queen, So who is to fetch the water?*

In what is the extreme pleasure and excitement of these poems? It is partly that they recover the sensuous beauty of Indian village life: the rivers and fishermen, the flowering trees; ponds reflecting fabulous birds under a heavy sky, or lakes, fed by waterfalls flaring over vermilion rock, so clear and holy that you drink them as you swim; white goats and ochre monkeys feeding among smooth black rocks on tumbled hills of Dionysiac green; the orgy of the sun and the cool sheer cloud of rain, the spices and wanton fruits that they engender. And partly that they are poems of people whose lives are so simple that they can still create poetry by the mere rhythmic utterance of the heart's affections: these are still holy in that they are not overruled by second thoughts or confused by novelties. It is as easy for the Chattisgarhi to be "simple, sensuous and short" as it is difficult for ourselves: in a complex and changing culture one can't go on saying the same thing. Mr. W. G. Archer, who contributes a most stimulating introduction to this book, notes that modern poets of the West are finding out how to write of the body in love without the smirk even Chaucer could not avoid. That is fee-simple to the Chattisgarhi, many of whose songs are remarkably like the western poems of physical love that are now being written. (One should add that they often smirk agreeably too.) They add the menarché as a subject:

> The red flower
> Has blossomed
> The lake
> Has broken its banks
> The lemons
> Have ripened
> The tender wheat-cake
> Is ready for dinner.

I wish there were space for more quotation, but I will whet your appetite, with some chips of onomatopoiea: "*Anak phadak* dances the ghost." When the dark girl sees a boy, "Her mind is filled with pleasure, She talks *lahar-lahar.*" Clothes in a basket rustle *kasmas-kasmas.* To beguile a baby:

> *Thunug munug dhari ghutku bhanjari*
> Your aunt has gone to the brinjal garden
> And a fox has carried her off
> Run uncle run
> To see what has happened
> *Digi digi digi digi.*

On the whole I find the nine ballads, to which Mr. Elwin has devoted a great deal of trouble, like Indian sculpture, too crammed with apotheoses, too muddled with metamorphoses. But there are 488 other poems, as well as the most entertaining commentary filled with archetype, allusion and quotation from Homer to Dylan Thomas. How I wish that by a whisk of Chattisgarhi magic a hundred of them could replace the *Best Poems of* 1946 which I suspect you, Mr. Moult, have there under your hat. That would make an honest fellow of your title in a trice.

ANDREW WORDSWORTH

The Dream of Descartes. By JACQUES MARITAIN. *Poetry London.* 7s. 6d.

In *Three Reformers* M. Maritain branded Descartes as one who "unveiled the face of the monster which modern idealism adores under the name of thought," convicting him of the recondite sin of "angelism" because he "conceived human thought after the type of angelic thought." This present book is a collection of periodical notes on the same theme, with one new chapter. M. Maritain now beats his own breast and says that the sin of Descartes is the French sin and that he (M. Maritain) is only doing his duty as a Frenchman in expiating it. To non-Catholics (and non-Frenchmen) all this will appear excessive. Other philosophers may think that Kant started a revolution in thought at least as far-reaching as the Cartesian, that the Aristotelian realism of the schools was doomed anyway, and that it was the schoolmen, with their rigidly insulated territories of reason and faith, who were "obstinate dividers." What Descartes introduced was a mathematicism which Kant presently showed to be impossible. But M. Maritain is committed to a view of history in which the truth was lost round about 1600, so that darkness covered the earth until 1879, when the Encyclical *Aeterni Patris* restored St. Thomas to the curriculum. In this melodramatic world-picture, Descartes is the inevitable arch-villain. It is instructive to see him now hissed equally by the other side. In a monograph not yet available in this country, the existentialist Karl Jaspers, whom M. Maritain no doubt considers a prey to Cartesian unrest, portrays poor René as a philosophical Samuel Smiles. The *dream* of Descartes, by the way was in fact a dream. It concerned a strong wind and a melon. M. Maritain's interpretation of it suffers from literalness.

The Wealth of England. By G. N. CLARK. *Oxford University Press.* 3s. 6d.

This is a most useful and admirable little book. Professor Clark gives an illuminating account of English economic history from 1496 to 1760. His sketch of the end of the Middle Ages is as vivid and scholarly as his analysis of the following three centuries. We understand the forces of economic and social change which are firmly set against the background of international economic developments. "By 1760," writes Professor Clark, "the long advance towards free markets and 'income economy' has come to its term; the tendency towards economic liberalism seemed to become a general advance in that direction, but ended in a retreat to controlled economy."

Perhaps Professor Clark might have said a little more about the profound influence of religious developments on early capitalism. His account of the Reformation period is somewhat scanty. Yet in spite of this the book should prove invaluable to students who are today so hard pressed for suitable text-books.

GRAMOPHONE NOTES

RAWSTHORNE: *Symphonic Studies* (Philharmonia Orch. cond. Constant Lambert H.M.V. C3542-4). One of the finest pieces of contemporary English music, rich in imaginative thematic transformations. The form is original. This is not a set of variations, but resembles a ballad in which the verses are punctuated by a refrain, as it were. Idiom derives partly from Hindemith, but with a strong undercurrent from the English polyphonic tradition. Constant Lambert makes the most of the orchestral drama, and, apart from some flatness of intonation in the brass and wind passage on side 5, the recording is exceptionally successful. A set to buy and study. Readers are strongly advised to acquire the miniature score (Oxford University Press, 10s. 6d.), which halves the difficulty of getting the hang of this work.

BRITTEN: *Young People's Guide to the Orchestra* (Liverpool Philharmonic Orch. cond. Malcolm Sargent. Col. DX1307-9). Listening without Tears. Simple, chordal theme by Purcell, treated in rather strict variation form. Necessity of spot-lighting each instrument (or group) in turn brings out all the diabolical cleverness of which Britten is capable. Much humour, in the Disney vein, and some characteristically beautiful sequences (oboe variation in particular). Most instructive, but never *merely* so: a self-subsistent piece of music, performed with infectious enjoyment. Recording carefully discriminative in tone-colour, but not quite so successful in the fugal Finale, which works up into a disagreeable blare.

TCHAIKOVSKY: *Fifth Symphony* (Philharmonia Orch. cond. Paul Kletzki. Col. LX969-74). Almost certainly the best performance yet recorded. Tempi just right, music never sentimentalised. Very stringent conducting. Climaxes rather over-recorded, otherwise a mellow and well-balanced set.

TCHAIKOVSKY: *Violin Concerto* (Ida Haendel with National Symphony Orch. cond. Basil Cameron. Decca K1444-7). Solo technically very brilliant, but hard-featured, charmless, and very harshly recorded. Good modern average in recording of orchestral part; otherwise this issue represents no advance on that of Heifetz, which is still available.

DUKAS: *L'Apprenti Sorcier* (National Symphony Orch. cond. Enrique Jorda. Decca K1175-6). Magnificently vital and picturesque performance of a comic masterpiece. Recording on the level of the recent *Carnaval Romain* issue: very taxing for any but highest quality reproducers. Upper strings rather metallic, but realism on the whole very striking. On side 4—in admirable contrast—the quiet and touching Prelude to Debussy's early cantata, *La Demoiselle Elue.*

Company Meetings

MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

PROGRESS OF RECONVERSION

Extracts from Statement by the Chairman, The Most Hon. The Marquess of Linlithgow, K.G., K.T., on the Report of Directors and Balance Sheet for the year to December 31, 1946.

The statement begins by observing that within the business life of the country substantial headway has been made towards the establishment of a smoothly working peace-time system—a fact which is illustrated by the progress of reconversion in banking.

It deals at length with the arrangements made for staff training and for the return of men from the Forces, and reviews developments in the two major, traditional services of banking—the operation of a safe, rapid and economical system of transmitting money and the provision of credit for the conduct of business in its endlessly varied phases. Owing to the higher level of business activity and the many new accounts opened, the amount of routine work in the day-to-day conduct of accounts is larger and continues to grow. On the other hand, although the amount of advances has recovered since the end of the war, when allowance is made for higher prices and costs in industry and trade the total is still well below the pre-war volume. So also is the number of advances outstanding, though here too an increase has occurred since the war ended. The re-expansion may be expected to continue, and the process of advancing to enterprise still remains that particular part of the business which calls most insistently for the exercise of the special, highly trained qualities of the banker.

One section of the Bank's activities which has conspicuously reflected the process of reconversion from war to peace is that concerned with overseas trade and international transactions generally. Among the factors contributing to this re-expansion are some which can be read as highly gratifying from the national point of view, in that they indicate not only a rapid growth of the country's export trade but an unimpaired degree of confidence, on the part of traders abroad, in sterling and in the technical services available in London as a financial centre. Various figures and facts are cited to illustrate the trend, and it is mentioned that today the Overseas Branch of the Bank has a considerable department providing a specialized advisory service to traders conducting foreign business and dealing with a wide range of inquiries. There has been marked expansion in executor and trustee business.

Future of Banking

The statement concludes with a reference to the question of the future of banking. This question, it says, can hardly be answered effectively, that is to say by forecasting the relative weight of the constituent functions of banking, until experience has been gained of working under the new conditions—conditons in which the financial system is to be regulated and directed with the deliberate and dominant purpose of maintaining a high and steady level of employment. Moreover, measures such as those for nationalizing the coal and other basic industries and for rendering permanent the centralized buying of raw cotton must have their effects upon the volume and shape of the business the banks conduct.

The history of banking in this country, however, is marked, from the beginning, by a quality of adaptability which has been very much in evidence once again in the short period since the war ended. I therefore conclude that, one way or another, banking has an assured place in the country's economic structure. There is no sufficient ground for thinking, that the days of enterprise in banking are numbered; we find that invigorating element at work in the various developments I have mentioned, and I see no reason to suppose that the process of adaptation to the ever-changing needs of the public in their financial affairs will provide less opportunity in the future than in the past for the quality of enterprise embodied in the personnel of our well-tried banking system.

MARTINS BANK

FINANCING TRADE EXPANSION.

Mr F. A. BATES' REVIEW

The one hundred and sixteenth annual general meeting of members of Martins Bank Limited is to be held on Tuesday, January 28th, at Liverpool.

In a statement issued to members the Chairman, Mr. F. A. Bates, M.C., A.F.C., D.L., says:

Net profit for the year is £708,763, which is £62,956 higher than in the previous year. The directors regard this as a very satisfactory result. Part of the addition to profit is due to the lower rate of income tax, and for the same reason members are receiving a larger net payment.

Interim and final dividends have been announced and the following allocations made:—Published Reserve £60,042, Reserve for contingencies £150,000. Reserve for pensions £50,000, Premises Redemption £100,000.

The increase during the year of nearly 40 millions in the current and deposit accounts brings the total of this item to £252,555,790. This increment exceeds by some millions that which took place during any of the war years.

Advances have expanded by £12,280,254, ratio to deposits being 17.94% against 15.53% a year ago. The advances are well spread and the return to peace-time production has resulted in new and heavier calls upon us by the commercial community.

Meeting Commercial Needs.

In accordance with the policy of the bank special attention has been given to applications for accommodation from the small as well as the large trader. Assistance has been provided to many small companies and traders by direct financial help and by introductions to those institutions whose function is the provision of more permanent capital than is usual under banking facilities.

The liquidity of the balance sheet continues high. Our holdings of cash, balances with other banks, market money, Treasury bills and Treasury deposit receipts amounting to £146,768,088 are 57.98% of our deposits against 54.49% a year ago.

The substantial increase of £5,688,634 in contingent liabilities arises mainly from credits established both in this country and abroad in connection with foreign trade. Owing to the demand for British goods from the liberated territories and other countries which were cut off from supplies during the war, the bank has handled an unusually large volume of foreign business and the number of documentary credits opened by purchasers of British goods has been considerable.

The recent visit of our Chief General Manager, Mr. McKendrick, to the leading banks in New York, Boston, Montreal and Toronto will have assisted in maintaining our cordial relationship with them.

I am pleased to report that our Trustee Department has steadily increased its business.

Mr. C. J. Verity and Mr. M. Conacher have been appointed joint general managers, a measure necessary to meet the demands of a growing business on the time of the General Management.

District head offices have always been a special feature of the organisation of this bank and the valuable work of the district boards and officers has been much in evidence. Their accessibility, we find, adds greatly to the convenience of our customers in having their problems considered with speed and local understanding.

The Chairmanship.

I now wish to inform the members that, owing to the death of my brother, Sir Percy Bates, last October, I felt it my duty to accept the chairmanship of the Cunard Steamship Company Limited and Cunard White Star Limited, which prevents me from giving so much time to the affairs of the bank. I have, therefore, with much regret, asked the Board to permit me to retire from the chair, a position in which I have had the honour of serving during the last eight years. The directors have agreed to release me immediately after the annual general meeting and they have chosen Mr. A. Harold Bibby to succeed me as chairman for election at the first Board meeting thereafter. Mr. Bibby is well known to the proprietors, having been a member of the Board since 1929. His wide experience both in home and foreign trade is of great value to the bank.

"*My* Target's lots of Certificates before April"

"Why April? Because after March 31st you won't be able to buy the present kind any more. Mind you, I expect the new Savings Certificates, starting next April, will have their good points too, but they're not likely to yield quite the same profit on my savings.

So I'm taking advantage of the next few months to buy all I can—*while the buying's extra good!*"

FOR YOUR OWN SAKE **SAVE**

Buy Savings Certificates NOW!

BRITAIN'S TARGET ● £520 MILLION BY APRIL

STRAUSS: *Don Juan* (National Symphony Orch. cond. Sidney Beer. Decca K1347-8). An entirely commendable issue, the best for many years. Age shall not wither, nor custom stale the rich surprises of this tingling score. The recording is among Decca's best, and not nearly so relentless as some of this company's recent experiments.

DVORAK: *Third Symphony in F* (City of Birmingham Orchestra, cond. George Weldon. Col. DX1315-19). A delightful work, full of youthful poetry and high spirits, which charms in spite of some rather mechanical treatment of the material. Performance begins sleepily and continues for some time on the dull side, but brightens up in the last two movements. Recording rather flat, especially in the tutti, which are entirely lacking in recession. I should probably not recommend this set at all, if any other existed; but the symphony badly needed recording, so we must make do with this issue for the time being.

BERLIOZ: *The Corsair* (Royal Philharmonic Orch. cond. Sir Thomas Beecham. H.M.V. DB6357). A splendid record in every way. One of Berlioz's most characteristic overtures. Sir Thomas at his most inspiring. The orchestra plays as one man. Tone very rich and sonorous, never strident.

CORELLI: *Oboe Concerto* (Evelyn Rothwell, with Hallé Orch. cond. John Barbirolli. H.M.V. C3540). A suite of five movements, melodiously pretty and just the right length. Excellent playing of solo, good balance, orchestra mellow and unobtrusive.

HOLST: *The Perfect Fool—Ballet Music* (London Philharmonic Orch. cond. Malcolm Sargent. Decca K1561-2). The best part of the opera, conceived in Holst's planetary mood. Backward glances at Mercury, Venus, and Uranus. Recording startlingly successful. No harshness, in spite of sudden and violent dynamic changes. On side 4 De Sabata's recording of the *Ride of the Valkyries*. Well-considered performance: no vulgar striving after effect. Excellent recording balance.

DELIUS: *Piano Concerto* (Moiseiwitsch, with Philharmonia Orch. cond. Constant Lambert. H.M.V. C3533-5). An early work, revised in 1907, this concerto is better music—and a more effective concert piece—than is commonly supposed. Like most of Delius, it revels perhaps unduly in luscious, kaleidoscopic harmony; but there is far more vigour and variety than in some of the composer's later works. A fine, romantic performance, and a full-blooded recording in which the huge climaxes are very well managed. For once the highest register of the piano is given its precise value.

BACH: *Concerto in D minor for Keyboard and Orchestra* (Harriet Cohen, with Philharmonia Orch. cond. Walter Süsskind. Col. DX1312-14). A heavy wooden performance. Recording remarkably dead. The problem of introducing rhythmical and dynamic variety into the even texture of an instrumental movement by Bach is a very subtle matter, requiring delicate adjustments of touch and metrical control. The result must at all costs be *human*. This performance sounds as if it went by clockwork. The Edwin Fischer set, although recorded at a lower level, has all the virtues that are lacking in the new one.

BRITTEN: *Second String Quartet* (Zorian String Quartet. H.M.V. C3536-9). In my view this is Britten's finest instrumental work to date, and an astoundingly suggestive experiment in the rejuvenation of sonata form. Both the phraseology and the harmony recall the linear writing of Alban Berg; but although acerbities are frequent, the beauty is as often sensuous (especially in the final Chacony) as intellectual. A profoundly moving work, and a large one. The Zorian quartet give a very competent understanding performance, and the recording is consistently good.

RAVEL: *Introduction and Allegro for Harp, String Quartet, Flute and Clarinet* (John Cockerill, Jean Pougnet, David Martin, Frederick Riddle, James Whitehead, Arthur Cleghorn, Reginald Kell. Col. DX1310-11). The Ravel Septet is a *locus classicus* of exquisite sound. A new issue was overdue, and this one is beautifully recorded; but I think more attention might have been paid to the whole effect, which seems to me not impressionistic enough for the intention. It is not often that one has to complain of hearing instrumental parts too clearly, but in this instance the playing seems to me slightly too meticulous and deliberate. Still, this is an honourable set.

SUK: *Four Pieces, op. 17, for Violin and Piano* (Ginette and Jean Neveu. H.M.V. DB6359-10). These belong to Suk's first period of composition and are therefore strongly Czech in flavour. Never dull, sometimes highly imaginative, invariably well written for the instruments. Performance consummate in tone and technique. The piano part is outstandingly well played.

CHOPIN: *Waltz in C sharp minor, op. 64 No. 2*, and *Nocturne in F sharp, op. 15 No. 2* (Malcuzynski. Col. LX975). An uninteresting record. In waltz rhythm this pianist favours the Viennese "lift" on the second beat of the bar—a vulgarism which is unsuited to the very French quality of Chopin's Waltzes. It is not that—either here or in the Nocturne—M. Malcuzynski betrays any failure in pianistic ability; but his playing is deplorably lacking in warmth and conveys no affection for the music.

DONIZETTI: "*Appressati, Lucia*" (*Lucia di Lammermoor*). Margarita Carosio and C. Tagliabue, with the Royal Opera House Orch. cond. Franco Patanè. H.M.V. DB6358). Donizetti's *opere serie* require championship today, since we no longer possess enough emotional naivety to take their conventions for granted. I think this a pity, and it may prevent some people from taking pleasure in the beautifully fluent style of this duet. Mme Carosio sings with unusual delicacy and precision, while M. Tagliabue—a rather rough baritone—gives a more routine performance.

MOZART: *Bildnisarie* (*Die Zauberflöte*) and BIZET: *La Fleur que tu m'avais jetée* (*Carmen*). (Richard Tauber, with orch. Parl. R20550). The best disc Mr. Tauber has made for some time. It is evident from comparison of this record of the Mozart aria with that made by him ten years ago, that Mr. Tauber's voice is no longer quite what it was; but the loss is not very considerable and both arias are sung in excellent style. The recording is discreet.

I regret having to write these Notes as if they were a house agent's prospectus, but must plead extreme pressure on space, which also obliges me to hold over till next month my comments on a set of interesting choral records made by H.M.V. for educational purposes.

EDWARD SACKVILLE WEST

Week-end Competitions

No. 884

Set by Roger Marvell.

The Government has just appointed the members of the Tourist Board, whose business it is to publicise the attractions, and to improve the accommodation, offered by this country to foreign visitors. Competitors are invited to submit a decalogue in rhymed verse that the Board might advantageously circulate among keepers of hotels and restaurants. Entries by February 4.

RESULT OF COMPETITION No. 881

Set by W. R.

Authors are conspicuous in the New Year Honours List by their absence. Competitors are invited to write six lines of verse suggesting an author they would like to see adorned with an honour, and giving reasons for their choice.

Competition Report by W. R.

Mr. Shaw and Mr. Priestley were much the most popular candidates, with Miss Dorothy Sayers next, some way behind. Honours were showered upon a number of contributors to this journal, and not least to rival competitors. Among other names drawn to the attention of the Source of Honours were those of James Agate, Beachcomber, Betjeman, George Birmingham, Enid Blyton, Ivy Compton Burnett, Agatha Christie, C. S. Forester, Graham Greene, Nat Gubbins, Joad, Laski, Rose Macaulay, MacNeice, Somerset Maugham, Herbert Read, Siegfried Sassoon, all three Sitwells, Stephen Spender, and—a little belatedly—Lucretius, Peacock, H. G. Wells. I have judged the entries upon style, even allowing Mr. Cassel to bestow impossibly a courtesy-title on Mr. Waugh: a guinea to each of the first six printed below. Nevertheless I wish some authors could be appropriately honoured.

Time is irrelevant to one who knows
"Through what wild centuries roves back the rose."
But we who have heard with joy that never fails
The unearthly sorrow of your nightingales,
"Till all our own was gone," would have you share
In this world's honours now, dear Walter de la Mare.

F. C. C.

TO HAROLD NICOLSON

If point and pith and that unerring nose
For character; if gracious, balanced prose,
Sense, rhythm, breadth, lucidity (which I count
Best of all gifts) have not made you a Viscount;—
The reason's irremediable, I fear,
—How can a peerless writer be a peer?

L. E. J.

The Editor of whom we dream
Is here. Who can so pick a team,
Find merit or discern style?
In all the Press without a peer,
We hope our Martin may next year
Be known as Viscount Turnstile.

WILLY TADPOLE

An author for an honour? Evidently
No one has chanced to think of E. C. Bentley.
It is not ev'ry literary craftsman
Sires both an art-form and a comic draughtsman.
If I were King, I know what I should do . . .
"Hand me that sword, Nick, Rise, Sir Clerihew."

FERGIE

An O.B.E., Priestley might think rather beastly, and
could you make Forster a knight?
Sir Christopher Isherwood sounds rather Tudor,
Dame Dorothy Sayers seems lacking in *pudor*,
While Wystan, Lord Auden—*that* doesn't sound right
But it mightn't discomfort Lord Evelyn Waugh
To take on a title rejected by Shaw.

MAURICE CASSEL

The powers that be might well have given their bays
To one old master of the magic phrase,
Whose books are gardens rich in storied bowers,
In sun-kissed fruit, and moonbeam-silvered flowers.
What star too bright, what badge or rank too rare
For that sweet singer, Walter de la Mare?

G. J. BLUNDELL

HINT FOR THE SHROVE TUESDAY HONOURS LIST

Mistah Eliot—he still alive.

How pleasant to knight Mr. Eliot,
Who affords us such gloomy delight;
Though he's make a much better archbishop,
How pleasant to see him a knight!

I'm convinced they should knight Mr. Eliot—
(Whether he wants to be knighted or not.)

TERENCE MELICAN

From Lansdowne Terrace to Sussex Place,
London town abounds in grace,
The flowers do bloom and virgins sigh
As they watch, with excitement, walking by,
Count Palinurus keeping his eyes on
The errant editor of "Horizon."
(The reasons for the bestowal of the honour in the penultimate line are implicit in the other 5).

BERNARD DENVIR

I think it rather beastly
Mr. Priestley
Should be missing from the Honours List.
I insist
That he merits the G.C.B.,
Good Companion (Books)—don't you agree?

GRANVILLE GARLEY

If in gratitude and hope of purest white
We made him a knight
Do you think E. M. Forster might,
Might, knowing how earnestly we wait,
Before it is too late,
Write?

PLAIN JANE

Honoured authors? Oh, what luck it
Would be, if Sir Towan Bucket
Shone among the new-made Knights!
Wit and skill and erudition
Should win public recognition,
If the owners had their rights.

TALAKA

Appointments Vacant

L.C.C. Applics. invited for under-mentioned posts as Inspectors in London education service. In special cases candidates may be appointed at sals. above the minimum of scales quoted: 1. Posts at salaries of £800-£50-£1,100 p.a. (basic) plus cost of living addition, at present varying according to sal. from £84-£96 p.a.: Inspector of Domestic Subjects (Woman): To advise upon, organise and inspect instruction in domestic subjects in all educ. establishments maintained and assisted by Council, and to direct and supervise work of asst. inspectors of domestic subjects; Organiser of Nursery Schools and Classes (Woman): To advise upon, organise and inspect nursery schools and nursery classes of all kinds whether self-contained or in assoc. with infants' schools; Inspector of Special Educ. (Woman): To advise upon, organise and inspect education of handicapped and delicate children in day and res. schools and to visit and report upon residential (incl. hospital) schools and homes maintained by Council and other bodies. 2. Posts at salaries of £450-£25-£700 p.a. (basic) plus cost of living addn. at present £90 (men) or from £72-£84 according to salary (women): Asst. Inspector of Art, to advise upon, organise and inspect instruction in all forms of art in educ. establishments of all types maintained or assisted by Council. Present authorised staff for art inspection is one inspector and two assts.; Asst. Inspector of Handicraft (man), to advise upon, organise and inspect instruction in handicrafts in primary and secondary schools, evening institutes and other educ. estabs. Present authorised staff for handicraft inspection is one inspector and two assts. Three posts of Asst. Organiser of Physical Educ. (women): To advise upon, organise and inspect instruction in physical education. Must hold recog. qualific. in physical educ. For one of posts ability to give and inspect instruction in various types of dancing reqd. Present authorised staff of women organisers of physical education is one organiser and five assts. For all above posts evening work is involved and persons appointed will be reqd. to organise and give courses of lectures for teachers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time. Other things being equal, pref. given to reqd. disabled persons. Separate applic. forms for each appointment are nec.; may be obtained from Educ. Officer (Estab. 2), County Hall, London, S.E.1 (encl. stamped add. foolscap env.). Applics. must be returned by Feb. 20. Canvassing disqualifies.

CORPORATION of Manchester City Art Galleries. Applics. invited for two posts described below. Candidates, male/female, should possess Univ. degree, or Diploma of Museums Assoc., or comparable qualifics. Salary £420, rising by £15 to £465, plus cost of living bonus. Appointed applicants will be required to pass satisfactorily a medical exam. and to execute deed of service by which officers of Corporation may either give or receive three calendar months' notice. Corporation are a Local Act Authority within meaning of Local Government Superan. Act, 1937, and maintain a Superan. Fund in accordance with provisions of Manchester Corporation (Superan.) Acts, 1920-46. (1) Assistant Curator in Charge of the Gallery of English Costume: Duties include charge of a branch gallery, display and preservation of a large costume collection, and classification of an extensive library of early fashion plates and journals. (2) Assistant Curator in Charge of the Horsfall Museum: This branch Art Museum is situated in an industrial neighbourhood. Its appeal has hitherto been largely directed to children of district. Sphere of this work is to be extended by instituting a Loans Service for Manchester Schools. A workshop will be established in Museum, in which visual aid material can be made under direction and to the design of Assistant Curator in Charge. Building up and operation of School Loans Service will be a major part of the duties. Applics. for both posts, giving partics. of age, educ., qualifics. and exp., and enclosing copies recent testims., should be recd. by Feb. 22, by Town Clerk, Town Hall, Manchester. 2. Canvassing strictly prohibited.

STAFFS. Educ. Ctee. Applics. invited for post of County Music Organiser for work in connection with schoo's and educational establishments in Staffordshire. Candidates should have high technical qualifics. and exp. in teaching and/or in organising musical activities. Salary £550-£30-£650 (men) or £500-£30-£600 (women), together with war bonus (at present £59 16s. p.a. for men and £48 2s. for women). Further partics. and forms of applic. from P. A. Hughes, Director of Education, County Educ. Offices, Stafford, to be returned by Feb. 4.

PRISON Commission. Applics. invited for post of Housemistress in Borstal Institution for Girls. Candidates should be women at least 25 and under 40 years of age on Jan. 1, 1947, who are physically fit and have had a secondary school or Univ. educ. Teaching ability, particularly in handwork, a recommendation. Appointment will be on an estab. basis, at salary comm. at £240 p.a., rising by annual increments of £18 to £360 p.a., together with consolidation addition of £63 p.a. at minimum. Free unfurn. accomm. or a cash allowance in aid of rent is provided, and med. attention and medicines under approved regulations. Forms of applic. from Prison Commissioners (Estab. Branch), Horseferry House, Thorney St., Westminster, S.W.1, to be completed and returned by 8/2/47.

WORKERS' Music Assocn., Ltd., invite applics., either sex, for post of Administrative Secy. with business and all round musical exp. as assistant to Organising Secy. Salary £300-£350. Write in first inst. with age and exp. to W.M.A., 132 Westbourne Terr., W.2.

Appointments Vacant—continued

L.C.C. Reqd. in day special schools for educationally sub-normal children in London area quald. women assistant teachers. Salary: Burnham scale plus London allowance, together with two increments throughout scale carried beyond max. Other things being equal, pref. given to reqd. disabled persons. Applic. forms from Education Officer (S.S.5), County Hall, S.E.1) (stamped add. env. nec.), returnable by Feb. 7. (150.)

THE Caldecott Community. Wanted prog. young certificated teacher to take charge of Junior School work at Community. Interest in social work amongst difficult and homeless children essential. Should have had exp. of primary work in a Local Educ. Ctee. School. The Community returns to Kent summer 1947. Applics. to Miss Rendel, Hyde Heath, Wareham, Dorset.

ENGLISH Matter (Mistress), confident of his ability to guide children in enlarged co-ed. school, where prog. education is attempted in harmony with the culture and beauty of its setting. Painting, crafts an asset. Vacancy also for intelligent person, able to undertake matron's duties. Scope for applic. of psychological knowledge. Box 2641.

WANTED by end of April a Matron for 18 boarders (6-12 yrs., 16 girls, 2 small boys) in recog. Junior School 130 pupils. Exp. and good testimonials essential. Apply Principal, St. Hilary's School, Godalming, Surrey.

WANTED now or May, someone experienced with young children, and keen on creative side of education, to take group 6-8-year children in small day-school run lines "Education Through Art." Write fully: Merrymay Centre, Ditchling, Sussex.

QUALIFIED teacher reqd. Switzerland. Adventurous-minded man with good degrees wanted for post of Headmaster in new venture. Box 5258 or Tel. SPE. 9371.

COOK (Domestic Science Cert. or Diploma) reqd. for children's nurseries (about 30 babies and/or toddlers, and to instruct Nursery Students). Member C. of E. Residential. Interesting work. Apply, quoting ref. 1/1, to Sec., Church of England Children's Society ("Waifs and Strays"), Old Town Hall, Kennington, S.E.11.

EXPERIENCED Secretary reqd. for Edgbaston High School for Girls, Ltd., Birmingham. Duties include full charge of School Accts., supervision of two assistants and office routine. Clerk to Governors and Council Meeting Secy. Good sal. for high qualifics. with exp. Applic. as soon as poss: Mrs. L. J. Cadbury, "The Davids," Northfield, B'ham, 31.

BRITISH Chess Federation proposes to appoint full-time Organising Secretary to take charge of substantial development programme. Appointment will be initially for period of one year from April 1, but if successful may become permanent. Comm. salary £500-£750 according to qualifics. plus travelling exps. Interest in chess and organising exp. essential. Applics. by letter only stating age, exp., qualifics. and salary reqd., to Hon. Treas., British Chess Federation, 52 Bedford Row, W.C.1.

JUNIOR Assistant (16-17) reqd. for varied and interesting work in Information Dept. of British Scientific Instrument Research Assocn., 26 Russell Sq., W.C.1. Some typing essential, shorthand desirable.

PERSONAL Asst. (female) reqd. to principal of large firm of Export Merchants with offices in Aden. Sound knowledge English essential, knowledge French desirable. Must be willing to reside in Aden if reqd. Good prospects. Write, stating age, exp., etc. Box 5065.

EXPD. Shorthand-typist with good knowledge French and German, wanted by big City export firm; convenient working hours. Box 4715.

JEWELLERS (Manufacturing) require Executive for Export Department—no Saturdays. Box 5321.

AT Keswick, wanted Domestic help, able cook, by 2 ladies, small mod. house. Eyres, Swale, Keswick.

Appointments Wanted

SWEDISH girls as Domestic Helps. Educ., good types 20-25 yrs. Want posts as family, pref. in large families. Suitable for mother's helps, etc. Send for partics. Isobel Jay's Agency, 98, Western Rd. Hove.

INTELLIGENT woman desires domestic post in progressive Co-ed. school. Cooking/housekeeping. Interested in and knowledge of Food Reform/Vegetarian cooking. 4 yrs. recent exp. Box 4590.

COLLEGE post in history or tutoring desired by American, B.A. Wesleyan, M.A. Harvard, single, 32, Phi Beta Kappa, Protestant, 8 yrs. exp. Harold Hancock, 82 West Main St. Westerville, Ohio, U.S.A.

UNMILITARY Artillery Major, release leave, single, unconventional, open-minded, wants active, satisfying occup. Main interests, writing, pianist, hill-farming, mountaineering, fishing. Unambitious financially, a little capital. Box 4719.

GRADUATE, ex-R.A.F., shs. situation secretary/chauffeur anywhere, long hours, long distances. Box 4730.

LECTURERS, Artistes, requiring experienced live wire manager, please write Box 4504.

ADVERTISER seeks evening secretarial or correspondence work. Own machine. Box 662, Aldridges, 1 Whitefriars St. E.C.4.

YOUNG man, 26, seeks employment any capacity, Europe, pref. France. Only asset adaptability, trustworthiness and good taste. Box 4563.

TYPOGRAPHER, 33, good knowledge books, indexing, preparing MSS. for press, reading for press, etc., shs. interesting post where exp. can be applied. Box 4712.

Where to Stay and Restaurants

MEVAGISSEY, Cornwall. Pentillie Guest House. Own fruit and vegetables. Non-vegetarian. Garage. Tel. 221.

LAKES. Charming old mansion, magnificent view. Modern conveniences. Croft Hotel, Ambleside. Tel. 334.

TETTENHALL. Guest House, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, open all the year round. Special terms for Winter Season, Oct./March.

A SHORT rest and change will enable many people to carry on. Lovely, peaceful surdgs., tranquil atmos. Tennis, squash, many unique features await you at Langdale Estate (N.), Gt. Langdale, Nr. Ambleside. Grms. 82.

SUSSEX. 1¼ hours from Charing Cross. Crowhurst Park Hotel and Country Club. Central heating. Home produce. Informal atmosphere. Special attention for Convalescents; rough shooting; riding. From 5 gns. 'Phone Battle 325.

SOCIALIST Guest House in beautiful Ribble Valley (Lancs). Peaceful holidays, enlarged mod. farmhouse. Home cooking. Full board, £4 10s. Stamped env. for brochure. "Clarion House," Clayton-le-Dale, nr. Blackburn.

BUDE, Cornwall. Hawarden Hotel. Open all year round. Facing South. Golf, fishing, riding, interesting walks. H. and c. in all bedrooms. Tel. Bude 147.

THE Old Hope Anchor Hotel, Rye, has now reopened. Good food, soft beds; a warm hotel; radiators and hot water in every bedroom. Apply Proprietor.

MANSION Hotel, Eastbourne's Luxury Hotel, Grand Parade. Re-furnd., finest cuisine, every conv. Private suites arranged.

GREEK Rest., White Tower, 1 Percy St. W.1. Mus. 2187. Open till 10 p.m.

RAJAH Restaurant, 17 Irving St. Leicester Sq. Best Indian curry in town. Fully licensed, no house charge, private rooms for parties and socials, afternoon teas. Open every day till 11 p.m. ABBey 4188.

L'ORIENT. Oriental and Continental specialists. Luncheons and dinners. Open daily, 56 St. Giles High St. (adj. Tottenham Ct. Rd. Tube). Tem. 5717.

LAYTON'S Wine Room, 2A, Duke St. W.1 (by Manchester Square). Hot lunches 12.30-2.30. Sherry parties catered for at your home. WELbeck 1864.

Personal

HOME offered N. London to lady in return for small payment and some help with child. Would suit student or refugee. Partics. Box 4546.

RETAIL Book-Sellers' business reqd. for ex-Serviceman. With or without tobacco and confectionery. Full details to Box 4697.

UNTIL I can afford a decent one of my own, I am able and anxious to offer good home for upright piano. Full respons., cge. pd. both ways. Tel.: PAD. 7318 around 7 p.m.

SCULPTRESS can take few more children 5-12 yrs. modelling lessons, S.W.3. Box 4318.

LARGE room accommodation 100 available evening or week-end meetings. Near Baker Street and Marble Arch Stations. Further particulars from Secretary, 59 Gloucester Place, W.1.

PERFECT Your Figure. Beginner's course in Indian Dancing, commencing Feb. 4. Thorough grounding in basic movements. Fee 5 gns. per term. Apply 23-24 St. Stephen's House, S.W.1. Tel. Whi. 0606.

PSYCHO-Analysis and Psychological Consultations. Oscar Kollerstrom (trained by Grodeck), 10 York Gate, N.W.1.

OCCIDENTAL, li rational lingue international. Can be read at sight. Complete manual 2s. from British Occidental Association, 423 Foots Cray Rd. London, S.E.9.

SOUTH London Bach Society (Dr. Paul Steinitz) has vacancies for good sightreaders in all voices. Full particulars from Org. Sec., Mrs. Steinitz, 77 Underhill Rd. S.E.22.

SUNSHINE Air Cruises: A 14-day holiday at Estoril on sunniest coast of sunny Portugal £120, inc. air fare from Prestwick to Lisbon, all road travel, and first-class hotel accom. Luxury air liners, specially chartered from Scottish Airlines, will soon be leaving Scotland every Friday. Make your reservations now for a fortnight of relaxation and tranquility under cloudless skies. Scottish Air Express, Ltd., 12 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Tel.: Central 9809. General Agents: Anchor Line, Ltd.

RUDOLF Steiner Psychology. Correspondence course of 24 lessons on the psychology of R. Steiner. Write for information to The Forerunner Publications, Newton Dee, Bieldside, Aberdeenshire.

GERMAN lessons by native. Ealing. Box 4733.

FRENCH tuition by native, qualified and exprd. lady teacher. Phone: GLA. 6735.

OFFICE wanted, 2 or 3 rooms, central position, reasonable rent. Box 1876.

LETTICE Ramsey, photographer (of Ramsey & Muspratt) Studio, 9 Ladbroke Terrace, W.11. 4 minutes, Notting Hill Gate. Appointments by telephone: Park 6513.

PARENTS and others desiring fullest information regarding schools and careers for boys should consult The Public and Preparatory Schools Year Book. (Official reference book of Headmasters' Conference and of Assoc. of Preparatory Schools) 1946 edn. now out of print. 1947 edn. should be ready June; orders booked at any time. Through bookseller 15s. net, or 15s. 7d. post free from publishers, Adam & Charles Black, 4, 5 and 6 Soho Sq. W.1.

FRENCH. A specialised Guarantee Course by post for All Examinations. Initial Fee only. No failures, tuition until successful Unique opportunity meet post-war conditions. Tutor, 64 Finchley Court, London, N.3.

Personal—continued

SHIRTS made to measure from own material. Also repairs neatly executed. No coupons. Malinow, 48 Gt. George St. Leeds, 1.

RAPID writing for busy people. Send 3d. for first lesson. Double Speed Longhand (S13), 92 Great Russell St. W.C.1.

CONVALESCENCE and recuperation in comfortable private house. Central heating, inner spring mattresses. Rest, relaxation, graduated exercise, open air activities. Partics. from Director, Combe Hill, Honiton, Devon.

RUSSIAN lessons by lady educated in Russia. Tel. MOU. 9365.

WORDBLINDNESS, difficulty in reading and spelling, treated by individual rapid method. Educ. Psychologist can accept a few more cases. Adults and children. Box 4581.

WANTED to purchase, Stamps. Highest prices paid. Prompt cash. Send any lots (except Modern English) by reg. post. Morris, P.T.S., 47 Sicilian Ave. W.C.1. HOL. 5509.

FOR required references, quotations and background material use the "Political Reference Supply Service." Time and trouble will be saved. Write or wire: 14 Greenhalgh Walk, London, N.2. State subject clearly.

PIANISTS—Violinists. Rapid Fingering. Flexible wrists, octave playing made easy (pianists), Vibrato (violinists). Descript. bk. "Finger Magic" (2½d. stp.), Director, Cowling Institute, 60 New Oxford St. W.C.1.

THE men who brought us final victory may count on the help of the British Legion in times of adversity, after Service. Please help them by a legacy to Haig's Fund, Richmond, Surrey.

FOREIGN Stamps. Grand Colonial Gamble Packet, 5s.; 50 Denmark, 1s.; 20 Swedish Commems., 1s.; Sudan, 5, 10, 20 pia. used, 3s. 3d; 50 diff. Greece mostly pictorials 2s. 1d. stamp for Lists; huge range brgn. offers. N. S. Hughes, Queens Rd. Bournemouth.

HALL of Institute of Journalists available for mtgs. Seats up to 100. Mod. rentals. Apply, Gen. Sec., 2-4 Tudor St. E.C.4.

HAVE your favourite suit copied in a John Peel Countryside Tweed from £5 14s. od. and 26 coupons. Fit guaranteed or money refunded. Send 3d. for pattern, Redmaynes, 10 Wigton, Cumberland.

COINS and Medals. Best prices for collections, gold and rare silver pieces. Standard Catalogue English Coins, 5s.; Seaby's monthly Bulletin, 2s. 6d. per annum. Seaby, 65 Great Portland St. London, W.1.

MONOMARK Service. Permanent London Address. Letters redirected. Confidential, 5s. p.a. Royal patronage. Write Mono-Mark BM/MONO12, W.C.1.

DOUGLAS Glass. Photographer of men and Children. 20 Abingdon Villas, W.8. Western 2336.

"MONEY and Credit," W. E. Fox. 5s. New textbook for students of Pol. Econ. W. H. Smith & Sons' Bookstalls or author direct. 79 Mysore Road, S.W.11.

BOOKS. We pay the best possible prices. Especially wanted Modern Fiction, Standard Sets & Books (before 1750) & Colour Plates (before 1850). Books also searched for. Krutina, 45a York St. Broadstairs, Kent.

AN Urgent Message from Germany. Lord Beveridge's compelling pamphlet, a challenge to all thinking men and women. Just published by the Pilot Press. 9d. from all booksellers.

HOW to enjoy smoking—
Fill your pipe with Tom Long Tobacco.

ACADEMIC robes. R. Buttress & Co., Ltd., 14/15 St. John's Street, Cambridge, are anxious to purchase second-hand Cambridge University gowns and hoods.

RISHABHA Jaina Free Lending Library, works on Jainism, Psychology, Comparative Religion, Yoga. Write only: Sec., 131 Cotswold Gardens, N.W.2.

CONFERENCES, Ceremonies, Weddings and Speeches recorded for broadcast or private use. Greetings and children's voices recorded as gifts. Recorded Sound, Ltd., Specialists in Recording and Public Address, 6a, Whitehorse St. W.1. GRO. 4634.

SHORT list of German literature just published. French list in preparation. Catalogues issued on general subjects. T. Thorp, 149, High St. Guildford.

CONTEMPORARY Lithographs. Original colour prints by Sutherland, Piper, Medley and others. From 35s. Frames to order. On view Turnstile Press, 10 Gt. Turnstile, W.C.1. HOL. 0135.

C. E. M. Joad, Gerald Bullett, E. J. Moeran, Norman Birkett, Michael Ayrton, S. R. Badmin, in 7th Countrygoer Book. Booksellers or (2s. 8d.), 58 Frith St. W.1.

"THE Nation," America's Leading Liberal Weekly. Subscriptions 35s. yearly, may be sent through the Publisher, N.S. & N., 10 Great Turnstile, London, W.C.2. Specimen copy on request.

THE Farmer—illus. Quarterly Journal of Natural Farming and Living. Sir Albert Howard, Newman Turner, Dr. C. V. Pink, Peter Freeman, M.P., on compost, benevolent bacteria, artificial insem., etc. 6s. 6d. year. Dept. C, Goosegreen Farm, Bridgwater, Som.

"FREE Unions": a surrealist review. Now ready. Prose, poetry, critical texts, reproductions. Translations from French of J. B. Brunius, Benjamin Péret, Alfred Jarry, De Sade, etc., J. Banting, F. Fergar, C. Maddox, R. Melville, Mesens, Pedro, R. Penrose, Edith Rimmington and others. 6s. 6d. post paid, from Editor, 30 Markham Square, S.W.3.

MODERN Books wanted. J. Clarke Hall, Ltd., Wine Office Court, E.C.4.

WANTED, stories and articles for popular journals. Donald Craig, Holycross, Thurles.